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JAPAN AND THE SOVIETS. AMERICAN TRADING ACTIVITIES IN SIBERIA.

New light is thrown on the abortive Conference at Chongchun between the Japanese Government and the Far Eastern Republic, and on the commercial activities in the Far East of American groups by the following letter, which *The Times* has recently published from a well-informed correspondent in Moscow.

I have had an interview with the chief of the delegation which the Far Eastern Republic recently sent to Washington. He told me that he does not expect much from the negotiations which are about to begin between the Russians and the Japanese at Chongchun, because the Japanese will, in his opinion, manage to keep a hold on Vladivostok, which they are both to relinquish. When they met the representatives of the Bolshevik Government and of the China Government at Dairen last spring, the conference broke up without reaching any result. The Japanese are out for the northern half of Saghalien, and large concessions in Kamchatka and the Primur, and they will not be content with less.

Meanwhile, America is interesting herself more and more in Siberia. General Graves, formerly in command of the American force which landed at Vladivostok in 1918, and now interested in various concessions in the Primur, is on his way to Vladivostok from Seattle, along with Mr. Grosshadt, an engineer with extensive Siberian experience, and the representatives of several large financial concerns in the States. They are all interested in those concessions, and so is General Wood, Mr. Henry Hunt, of Cincinnati (engineering firm), Messrs. Montgomery & Co., of New York (bankers), the National City Bank, the Kohnen Leob Company, the Guaranty Trust Company, the Equitable Bank, the Baldwin Locomotive Company (which is talking of repairing all the railways in the territory of the Far Eastern Republic, if normal political relations are restored between that Government and Washington), Messrs. Farnsworth, of New York and St. Louis (fur people), and Robert Dollar, timber merchant, who is getting forest concessions in Eastern Siberia.

The concessions which General Graves is said to be after, are gold, but personally I think that no hard-and-fast agreements have so far been concluded between China Government and any American groups. General Graves, I take it, is simply going to Siberia to have a look around, and I think that he will find labour, political, economic, and transport difficulties so great that no work can be done for years.

THE PEASANTS' ATTITUDE.

As for the Petrov insurrection, which was said to have interrupted traffic on the Trans-Siberian railway, I learn that there is nothing in it. There are regular trains to Chita from Moscow, and Petrov, a bandit pure and simple, with no more than two hundred men under him, has taken refuge in a wood far from the Siberian railway, and is of no account. This fact I learn from various reliable sources here, some of them anti-Bolshevik. The bandit leader Petrov has been killed, and, anyhow, his band has been dispersed, while Makhanov is no longer in Russia. He is said to be in Warsaw.

The landowners tell me that the harvest is fairly good, but that, owing to the wet summer, the potato crop, on which the muzhik depends a good deal, has proved a failure almost everywhere. The tax-in-kind imposed on the peasants is not unjust or severe, and the peasants in outlying districts manage in many cases to evade it.

To return, however, to my interview with the chief of the Far Eastern Republic's Washington delegation. By the time my informant and his delegation reach Chita, General Graves and his friends will be there, and arrangements about Russo-American commercial co-operation in the Far East will have been begun. It was probably a knowledge of this activity on the part of the Americans in Eastern Siberia that caused the Japanese to announce recently that they were leaving Vladivostok, and to agree to an exchange of views with the representatives of the Moscow Government and of the Far Eastern Republic.

The Baldwin locomotive people are to repair all the railways in the Far Eastern Republic, and other large American concerns are talking of undertaking other work and taking up other concessions; but so far this has not got beyond the talking stage, and all depends on the regularization of political and commercial relations between Russia and the States. Possibly, said my informant, America will first recognize the Far Eastern Republic and do business with her, and then be led on to recognize the Moscow Government.

He maintains that the Far Eastern Republic is not Communist, but a democratic State, independent of Moscow, but under Moscow's protection at present owing to the Japanese menace. He looks forward to the time when Vladivostok will be quite clear of Japanese and will constitute a door opening out towards America, and with nobody blocking it. When that day comes, America will do very big business in Eastern Siberia, as she did before the war.

A COMING COLLAPSE.

Personally, I am convinced that the Far Eastern Republic is, to all intents and purposes, ruled by Moscow, despite the camouflage of an autonomous administration at Chita; but all the authorities whom I have consulted agree with my Siberian informant in thinking that Morkulov's puppet Government at Vladivostok will collapse the instant Japanese support is withdrawn.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

LICENSED TAVERNS IN SHANGHAI.

PROPOSAL TO EXCLUDE WOMEN
AND GIRLS.

The following is taken from the Minutes of the Watch Committee of the Shanghai Municipal Council:

In February the Moral Welfare League approached the Council, enquiring whether it was possible to do anything to discontinue the employment of women in the Settlement. This enquiry was considered by the Council, and on its direction reply was made on March 16th that it was "unwilling to restrict the time to take any action, restricting the liberty of persons, unless it can be shown that abuse result therefrom."

In a further letter, which is now submitted, the Moral Welfare League forwards for consideration a draft licence condition, which it is requested, should be substituted for Condition 9 of the Chinese tavern licence, which provides that no girls under 15 be permitted to visit or frequent the premises for the purpose of singing or otherwise entertaining customers, and should also be adopted in the case of foreign taverns.

Dealing first with the draft condition, its members observe that in its present form, its adoption could not be approved under any circumstances, since its concluding terms are such as would preclude any women folk dancing in any place of public amusement, in respect of which a tavern licence is held, e.g., the Astor House Hotel and Carlton Café.

Dealing next with the need for alteration in the existing licence conditions, it appears to members, on careful consideration of the views expressed by the Moral Welfare League, and of the report made by the Commissioner of Police, on their request for his views, that the case presented by the League is much exaggerated, and its whole sale condemnation of premises holding such licences unwarranted. Indeed, ing tavern licences is a fact that women are employed in all bars, there is not at the present time a single bar in the Settlement in which women are employed to dance with customers; whilst so far as members are aware, there are only two in which any women are employed at all. One in which the proprietor's wife assists in the business and the other in which a Japanese waitress is employed. More immoralities (inter alia), the suppression of which is the aim of the League, are fully provided against in the existing licence conditions, breach of which has been acted upon by the Council on more than one occasion with the result that the licences of the offenders have been withdrawn and their establishments closed.

Having regard to these and other considerations members are of the opinion that new legislation is neither required nor advisable, and reply to the Moral Welfare League in this sense is directed, adding (a) that any specific instances of breaches of the licence conditions alluded to should be brought specifically to the Council's notice, when such action will be taken thereon as the circumstances may require, and (b) that so far as bars outside the Settlement are concerned, the League should bear in mind that the Council has absolutely no licensing powers over them.

PHILIPPINE LEGISLATION.

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

"I am confident that we have passed through the period of greatest depression and that better times are ahead," declared Governor-General Wood in his message to the Legislature, delivered last week.

Governor Wood, among his many other recommendations, asked the members of the legislature to give their favourable consideration to the Budget Bill; a consideration to the reorganization of certain government bureaus; a bill for the standardization of salaries; a bill authorizing a mill tax to provide more revenue for the University of the Philippines and another providing pensions for Supreme Court justices and judges of first instance.

His last recommendation was that the right to vote be granted to the women of the Philippines.

Merkulov has no Russian backing. General Dieckrich has no Russian army. Semenov is stranded in Shanghai, and neither Merkulov nor the Japanese want him back in Siberia. In these circumstances there will be no fighting and no revolution in Vladivostok if the Japanese go. Merkulov will simply fade away; in fact, he will probably go off on a Japanese battleship, and the Red Flag will at once fly over the Vladivostok citadel.

The Russian Far East will thus, in all probability, be the scene of interesting but bloodless developments—unless the Japanese find a new excuse for staying. Brisk business relations between Vladivostok and the Pacific Coast of America will be resumed, and these business relations, if satisfactory to the Americans, will pave the way for the political recognition of all Russia by Washington and for the re-establishment of commercial relations between America and Soviet Russia.

My own observations here in Moscow convince me that Communism is dead, or rather, that there are Communists in Russia, but no Communism. Individual trading has been restored. The bread cards have been abolished. One must pay for everything—one's hotel bill, railway fare, tramcar ticket, theatre ticket, way fare, and taxes. At first glance I can see no essential difference in principle between the economic system here and that which obtains in Berlin.

THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE COLONY.

At a meeting of the Legislative Council at Singapore H.E. the Governor delivered his annual address to the Council, from which we extract the following paragraphs:

The memorandum which has been circulated shows that we expect to do a good deal better than our way this year. It is anticipated that our revenue will exceed the original estimate by about \$1 millions, while our expenditure should be less than our original estimate by about \$1 millions. The year's working should in fact increase our surplus by somewhat more than \$2 millions.

This is an even better result than that of the year 1921, which produced an addition to our surplus of slightly over \$1 millions. In view of the fact that the Colony has suffered from a continuance of the depression in two of the principal Malayan industries which was so pronounced a feature of last year, I think we can congratulate ourselves on the result from the Government point of view.

It is true our revenue will be \$60 millions less than in the year 1921, but on the other hand our expenditure for the current year is almost \$8 millions less than that of last year.

It is estimated that at the end of the current year the assets of the Colony will exceed its liabilities by some \$84 millions, and owing to the fact that the Federated Malay States have repaid to us during the current year a sum of \$10 millions, the liquid portion of our surplus has been considerably increased. It is anticipated that at the end of the year after earmarking from our surplus a sum adequate to carry to completion the New Post Office and the General Hospital schemes, the Colony will have available in cash and readily realisable securities some \$87 millions.

This you will agree is a strong position, but upon a broad view of the situation, we have not, I think, more than is required to meet the calls that are likely to be made upon us.

Our estimated revenue for 1933 is \$81,247,118, as compared with estimated \$78,453,841. It will be observed that we have for next year prepared our budget with the intention of not spending more than we expect to receive in the year. This is the only sound policy in times like the present.

ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS CAM- PAIGN IN PHILIPPINES.

PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOR-
GENERAL.

A proclamation has been issued by Governor-General Wood, commending the work of the Philippine Anti-Tuberculosis Society and pleading for aid to that organization in its present campaign. The Proclamation reads:

"To the people of the Philippine Islands:

"Health is one of a nation's greatest assets. I desire to call the attention of every public-spirited citizen to the membership campaign being undertaken this year by the Anti-Tuberculosis Society of the Philippine Islands. The primary purpose of this charitable organization is the stamping out of the dreaded white plague in the Philippines. No better service can be done for the Filipino people than the work undertaken by the Society."

"The Anti-Tuberculosis Society is a private organization. The Government allots it a yearly subsidy, but its main source of income is derived from its membership and from private donations and endowments. It is my earnest hope that the Government may be able to extend to the anti-tuberculosis campaign more substantial support in the near future."

"Tuberculosis is a disease that causes more deaths and more sorrow among the people of these Islands than any other disease. In the year 1920, twenty thousand people died of this disease. It is becoming a great scourge in these Islands, and the steady in-road being made by it goes on almost uninterrupted. Something must be done to check its onward march."

"I sincerely commend the work of the Anti-Tuberculosis Society whose progress I have watched with a keen interest, and urge all insular, provincial and municipal officials, all teachers in public and private schools, priests and ministers of all churches, social leaders and all the citizens of these Islands to help in this noble mission to protect the health of the people. The public should give the Anti-Tuberculosis Society in its present drive for membership whole-hearted support and unstinted co-operation."

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WAS HE AN ARMED ROBBER?

As the result of an arrest made in the early morning on the Kowloon City Road, a Chinese, who was found in possession of a fully-loaded revolver, was charged before the two Police Magistrates, yesterday, with unlawfully having the weapon in his possession.

Mr. T. H. King, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Kowloon, conducted the case for the Police. The charge was proved and the man was sentenced to two years' imprisonment with hard labour.

It appears that a patrol of Indian police stopped a party of Chinese as they were returning from Kowloon City. One of the Chinese was seen to discard a revolver. He and three other Chinese were arrested and taken to the Hung Hom Police Station. Nothing tangible could be proved against the other three Chinese, but as they are believed to be bad characters they have been recommended for banishment.

CANTON LABOUR TROUBLES

TEXTILE WORKERS THREATEN TO
STRIKE.

Workers in the various textile industries are demanding that their employers stop discounting their pay, says the *Canton Times*. On account of the sudden rise of cotton yarn prices some time ago, the textile concerns in the city took the measure of decreasing the wages of their employees in order to lessen the loss they had to suffer. As the prices of cotton yarns continue to drop, the workers now feel that it is not fair for the employers to continue reducing their pay.

A meeting of more than fifty representatives of the many thousand textile workers in the city was held yesterday at the Kiangsu Guild House, in Ho Fan Kai, to discuss the matter. It was resolved that if the employers do not comply with their request, a general strike will be called.

A BIG BUSINESS CONTRACT.

\$240,000 DAMAGES FOR CHINESE
PLAINTIFF.

His Honour Judge Lobingier, in the United States Court for China, last week delivered judgment in the case brought by Chin Hing-hun against the Shippers Commercial Corporation. The complainant alleged that on September 9th, 1919, defendants contracted with to give your petitioner the exclusive agency for the sale of indigo in North China, for ten years, requiring petitioner to take 4,500 barrels of indigo yearly during that period. The defendant agreed to pay a commission of \$5 per barrel and 2 per cent on the sale price.

This was expressly admitted in the answer, but the answer invoked by way of defence the following provision of the contract:

"The agent agrees to take up the whole of the goods if the large sample is satisfactory to him and then he will give to the Firm a Cash Deposit of \$10,000."

Plaintiff in his reply admitted that he had not paid \$10,000, to the defendant but denied that repeated demands or any demand had been made for such payment, and denied that the failure to make such payment constituted a breach of the contract. He further alleged that on or about January 9th, 1920, defendant waived the payment of \$10,000, until the arrival of a shipment of 500 barrels of indigo, etc.

His Honour found that plaintiff was entitled to recover the entire amount of his fixed damages which the Court found amounted to \$240,000, for which sum together with costs judgment was accordingly rendered for the plaintiff and against the defendant.

WORLD THEATRE.

A HONGKONG FAVOURITE ON THE SCREEN.

Miss Pearl White as Mary Vantine is appearing on the screen of the World Theatre for four days only in the beautiful drama "The Thief." Mary Vantine, with her husband, Andrew Vantine, as the home of Richard and Isabelle Lenwright. Mary and Isabelle were friends at college and swore eternal fealty, even though one might succeed in the world and the other remain poor. Isabelle has won social position, but Mary soon realises that her cheap attire has marked her as "dowdy" at the country place. She determines to get some new gowns, and every one, including her husband, is astonished when she suddenly blossoms out in beautiful new clothes. Mary soon finds herself persistently wooed by Fred Lenwright, the impressionable young son of her friends, and also by an unsuspicious millionaire, Ralph Blake. Fred writes her endearing love notes, which he leaves carelessly about, and Blake takes it upon himself to pay her bill at the modeste when she is pressed for funds. She soon finds herself in an extremely compromising position. Some stolen money and the presence of detectives in the house increase her discomfiture. At length her husband begins to suspect and breaks out in a savage passion. The stolen money is traced to Mary. Fred and the love affairs to South America, when Mary makes a dramatic confession, assuming guilt for the stolen funds, but denying her complicity in the love affairs. She and husband then decide to go away and begin life anew.

PENANG MILLIONAIRE WILL SUIT.

CHIEF JUSTICE DELIVERS HIS WRITTEN JUDGMENT.

THE REASON A JURY WAS NOT EMPANELLED.

The Chief Justice (Sir William Rees Davies) delivered his written judgment yesterday morning in the Penang millionaire suit which first came before the Supreme Court of Hongkong eleven months ago. Intimation had already been made that the verdict had gone to the defendants, the exors. of the estate, and that the claim of Cheong Tye Gan to be a son of the testator had been quashed.

There were present in Court to hear the judgment delivered, Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton (who has latterly conducted the case for the plaintiff by virtue of a special Ordinance empowering a solicitor to act as a barrister) and Mr. Eldon Potter and Mr. F. C. Jenkin (instructed by Messrs. Deacon, Looker, Deacon & Harston).

In the opening paragraphs of the judgment, the Chief Justice said:—

This case has been one of abnormal length and difficulty, and it places on the Court the obligation of deciding an important issue of fact on a mass of evidence in many respects wholly conflicting. A verdict in favour of the plaintiff would involve not only a finding of gross perjury on the part of many of the defendants' witnesses but also a wholesale conspiracy—I should think, almost unrivalled in litigation—on the part of the representatives of a very wealthy Chinese gentleman to fraudulently deprive a youth of his legitimate share in his deceased father's estate. On the other hand, a verdict in favour of the defendants involves a finding of flagrant perjury on the part of many of the plaintiffs' witnesses, who are aiding and abetting him to secure a share in an estate to which he is not entitled by personating another long ago deceased.

SERIOUS HANDSHIP ON A JURY.

I have had occasion to comment before, in this Court, on the difficulties of a Judge without the assistance of a jury having to decide cases based on questions of fact where perjury on one side or the other—and in some cases probably on both sides—is rampant, and where the decision, under the circumstances, may largely rest on probabilities. On the other hand, I recognise that the conditions prevailing in litigation here, both as regards interpretation of evidence from one language into another, and the prolixity of Chinese witnesses, greatly prolong the hearing of a case and would inflict a serious hardship on a jury of business men were they constrained to sit in such cases. This consideration alone governed me in not exercising my right of having a jury in this case, which is based entirely on fact and not on law.

Proceeding, the Chief Justice said he deemed it unnecessary and unpracticable to deal with all the details of "this very lengthy and complicated case; it was sufficient to deal with the chief grounds on which his conclusions had been reached. The Judge then summed up the evidence as to the recognition or non-recognition of the youthful plaintiff by members of the testator's family, his share in various Chinese ceremonies and funerals; the names on the testator's tombstone and the conflict of evidence as to whether a character thereon stood for the plaintiff or someone else (it being the custom for the names of descendants to appear on Chinese tombstones).

The Judge mentioned that, as to the books produced by the defendants, he found that there was no proof of fraud or of improper tampering with the accounts. These accounts did not show that the plaintiff, as alleged, had drawn \$30 a month from the estate for many years.

EXPERT EVIDENCE ON CHINESE CUSTOM.

Discussing the expert evidence as to Chinese customs given by Mr. S. B. C. Ross (Postmaster General), Mr. Chan Tat Ming (Chinese master at Queen's College) and Mr. Chan Pik U, another schoolmaster, the Judge remarked: "All these three gentlemen, expert in Chinese custom, agree that it is unthinkable that the testator's wife would allege that the son of her husband was dead when he was alive, as it would be an outrage on her dead husband and an offence against the ancestors. As a fact, this old lady entirely relies on such an allegation and conducts this action accordingly. I may add that, conceding the plaintiff's

position, the evidence of the experts only proves adoption and it does not prove that he is the Gan of the will, the natural son of Tye Tye by the testator."

After dealing with the names appearing in the death notice, the Judge remarked that he thought it was clear both from the evidence and from the omission of the plaintiff's name from the death notice, that he was not the natural son of the testator. The Chief Justice proceeded to deal with the oral evidence. As to that in called in support of the plaintiff, his Lordship remarked that, to anyone not familiar with Chinese witnesses, it would seem conclusive. The defendants replied by producing a death certificate which they submitted related to the person named in the will. If it did, that would dispose of the case.

As to the omission of the name of Gan (the name claimed by the plaintiff) from the cards of invitation at the worship at the family temple in Penang the executors said the reason was that Gan died two years before that time. As to this Mr. Lai Choi Hi, Professor of Chinese Literature in Hongkong University gave most important evidence. The Judge summarised this evidence which was that the professor was a relative of the testator and was consulted by him as to the invitations. He asked the testators why Tye Gan's name did not appear in the list, and the testator replied "This so-called Tye Gan is dead." There was no cross-examination of this witness and I see no reason," said the Chief Justice, "for rejecting his evidence. There has been no practical suggestion why a man of this standing should come forward and invent a deliberate lie and his evidence, if true, goes far to dispose of plaintiff's case. The only real criticism offered by Mr. Brutton was that he was the father-in-law of one of the defendants and that he was silent as to the death of Gan at the time of the Penang action in 1912." The Judge noted, further, that in that action the death of Cheong Tye Gan was declared and was unchallenged.

GROSS PERJURY ON ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER.

The evidence of witnesses who spoke to the death showed an entire conflict of testimony and gross perjury on one side or the other, and he had to place himself in the position of a jury and decide which to believe.

"Before coming to the question of the death certificate," continued the Chief Justice, "I must state that, accepting as I do the defendants' direct evidence on the point of death, it disposes of the plaintiff's case. The onus of proving his claim is on him. He has failed to do so and I must say, frankly, that I do not believe him or his witnesses. His evidence as to his age was entirely unsatisfactory. He stated that he was twelve years old when the No. 8 concubine died but subsequently corrected himself when it became evident that, according to the correct date of this woman's death, if he was twelve years old at that time he was not the boy mentioned in the will."

PENANG REGISTER CRITICISED.

The Judge said he had decided to exclude the death certificate altogether in determining the case, although, if conclusive, it would have completely demolished the plaintiff's case. The two certified extracts from the Penang Register of Deaths were entirely unsatisfactory; from the point of view of record the entry, as a whole, was unsatisfactory, and the explanation as to the Registrar's laxity, or that of his staff, was more so. Plaintiff's counsel threw out a suggestion of mala fides but the Judge did not take that view; there was not, in his judgment, anything to warrant a suggestion of bad faith. Its inaccuracies largely under-rated the value of the death certificate; the onus was on the defendants to establish conclusively that it referred to the dead son in the will and he was not satisfied as to its proof. Ignoring the death certificate for the reason given, the Chief Justice said he had given his verdict, on the evidence as a whole, without doubt, in favour of the defendants (the exors. of the testator).

Concluding his judgment, the Chief Justice said he desired to bear testimony to the great zeal and marked ability which had characterised Mr. Brutton's conduct of the case. Deprived by untoward circumstances, in the course of the case, of the services of both his counsel, he had a difficult task to perform. He discharged it with great fidelity and left no point unraised which the ingenuity of an advocate could suggest in the interests of his client.

THE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY TO BE REVIVED AFTER LYING DORMANT SINCE 1914.

In view of wishes frequently expressed by many residents an effort is being made to revive interest in the Hongkong Philharmonic Society, which has been dormant since 1914, and a meeting of a few of the old members was held in the Hongkong Club on Tuesday evening to consider the question.

It was decided to ask H.E. Mr. Clapp Severn, C.M.G., to accept the presidency of the Society and His Excellency has signified his willingness to do so.

The following gentlemen have accepted office:—Messrs. C. E. H. Beavis, J. Owen Hughes, E. J. Chapman, E. Ralphs, Hon. Mr. T. L. Perkins, Prof. C. A. Middleton-Smith, Mr. T. P. M. Bevan (Conductor), Mr. Eric Rice (Pianist), and Mr. J. A. E. Bullock (Secretary). It is hoped that it will be possible to complete the list of officers in due course.

The Secretary will be glad to receive, as early as possible, the names of ladies and gentlemen who are willing to become members of the Society, active or otherwise. Those who are willing to give their assistance in choral or orchestral work should state whether their voices are Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Baritone, or Bass, or the instrument which they are willing to play.

So soon as sufficient names are received, a general meeting will be held at which all proposals for the ensuing season will be put before the members and days for practice notified.

It is sincerely hoped that the public will respond generously to this appeal for assistance.

MAN SHOT IN A TEA-HOUSE. ECHO OF THE ABERDEEN STREET SHOOTING AFFRAY.

COMPLAINANT IN RECENT CASE NOW UNDER ARREST.

Chinese mentality is very hard to understand and a shooting incident in a tea-house near the Central Fire Station, Queen's Road Central, yesterday morning, affords an illustration of the difficulty.

Yesterday morning a Chinese painter named Wan Ko, who on August 27th, 1922, was shot at and seriously wounded in the head in Aberdeen Street, by a man named Wong Kum; entered the Sam Yuen Tea House, walked up the stairs to the third floor and there encountered three men, said to be his enemies. What happened is not clear. The painter is said to have drawn a revolver and shot one of the three men in the chest. The bullet entered the man's lung and he immediately collapsed. Directly after the shooting took place, the painter blew his police whistle and is said to have handed himself over to the Police. He is now in police custody. The wounded man was removed to hospital, and his condition was considered to be so serious that the second Police Magistrate (Mr. E. W. Hamilton) was sent for to take his depositions in case he should die.

In the absence of definite information it is conjectured that the painter was tackled by the three men when he reached the head of the stairs, and that in defence he drew a revolver which he used with such serious consequences. The wounded man's companions have not been arrested. It is supposed that the three men who were in the tea-house were friends of the man who shot at the painter two months ago, and is now undergoing 14 years' penal servitude for his crime. At the Criminal Sessions it transpired that the prisoner in the case was a member of the Painters' Guild, and Wan Ko was shot because he would not join the Guild. Wan Ko is said to have taken up a very strong attitude against the Guild.

On the man, who was wounded in the tea-house, yesterday, were found certain documents relating to secret society work.

The Police are busy investigating the affair.

A new industry is being started in Kowloon. A local firm has started to manufacture cigars at a moderate price. The cigar, says the *Malay Mail*, is 4 inches long and slightly tapered, rounded at both ends and black shaped, one-half by three-eighths of an inch in width. It does not look like a weed in the mouth and it smokes mild. It is made of Sumatra leaf and rolled by expert Burmese women, specially imported for this purpose. These cheroots have only been put on the market after several weeks of experiment. For the medium size the price is \$3 a hundred.

SEIZURE OF ARMS IN HOTELS AUSTRALIAN CHARGED.

The man, who was arrested on board the S.S. *President Jefferson*, on Tuesday, in connection with the seizure of arms at the King Edward Hotel and the Palace Hotel, was brought before Mr. Hamilton at the Magistracy, yesterday. This man is an Australian, named William Pitts, aged 39 years, employed on the *President Jefferson* as a second steward. The seizure of the arms in the two well-known European Hotels has caused quite a stir locally, and this has been enhanced by the arrest of two Australians, the other man being Owen James Smyth, late bar manager of the Palace Hotel. His case will be resumed on Friday next. He was allowed bail of \$1,000, but as he has been unable to find this sum he is in police custody. Two Chinese have also been arrested in connection with the affair. One of these was allowed bail of \$5,000. When his case was called at the Magistracy, on Tuesday, it was found that he had "jumped his bail." The Magistrate ordered the \$5,000 to be estimated.

Four charges have been preferred against the Australian, William Pitts. They are: (1) importing 31 revolvers, 9 Mauser pistols, 2 Savage rifles and 2,380 cartridges; (2) importing 3,850 revolver cartridges, 400 Mauser pistol cartridges. Two alternative charges of unlawful possession have also been preferred against the defendant.

Chief Detective Inspector Morrison asked for the case to be adjourned until Friday morning.

The Magistrate: What is the nature of the evidence against him? I understand you want to make a statement on the matter?

Inspector Morrison said that on Oct. 22nd, which was a Sunday, four packages of arms were sent to the King Edward Hotel at about 7 p.m. The evidence would show that at about 9 p.m. the same day the defendant called at the hotel and engaged a room for the night. He ordered that three of the packages be taken to his room, No. 98, and that the other be stored in the baggage room. This would be the evidence supporting the first charge. As to the second charge, the ammunition was found in the defendant's cabin when the ship came into port on Tuesday morning from Manila. The defendant (to the Magistrate): Can I get in touch with the American Consul-General?

The Magistrate (to the Inspector): Make the usual arrangements.

Inspector Morrison: Sergt. Andrew will take him to the Consul if he likes.

The defendant: I want to see the American Consul because I have not been properly treated. He added that the food in gaol was not good. He wanted better food for which he was prepared to pay out of what little money he had. (Here the defendant mumbled something about porridge and bread in tones not clearly audible to the reporters).

Inspector Morrison: That is a matter which should be referred to the Gaol authorities.

The Magistrate: I can't interfere with that, but I will mention your case to the Superintendent of the Gaol.

The case was then remanded to Friday next, bail of \$5,000 being allowed.

A FEAT OF ENDURANCE. SEVEN MEN IN THE WATER FOR SIX HOURS.

The tale of a remarkable feat of endurance has just been reported in Hongkong. The master of a fishing junk tells the tale. He reported to the Harbour Master of Hongkong that on October 29th his junk ran into a gale 10 miles south of Waglan. After battling with heavy seas the craft sank about 25 miles from land. The crew of seven men took to the water and kept on swimming for six hours before they were picked up at four o'clock next morning by another junk. The survivors reached Hongkong on Monday night.

STORING PETROL WITHOUT A LICENCE.

Li Sing, of the Asia Garage, No. 11, Caroline Road, Wanchai, was summoned before Mr. Lindell at the Magistracy, yesterday morning, for having in his possession 16 gallons of petrol without a licence. The defendant's excuse was that the petrol was to be used for private cars. Sergt. Stimson proved that the petrol was stored in the garage building and that it was not kept in a regulation tank. The Magistrate imposed a fine of \$50.

LANE, CRAWFORD, LTD.

FOR

QUALITY & SERVICE.

We have an extensive collection of delightful and original models in

Gowns,
Costumes,
Wraps,
Hats, etc.

ready for immediate wear.



— NO CHARGE MADE FOR ALTERATIONS —

LANE, CRAWFORD, LIMITED.

EST. 1850.

SHIPCHANDLERY DEPT.

COMPLETE SHIPS' OUTFITS.

DECK AND ENGINE ROOM STORES.

OILS, PAINTS AND VARNISH IMPORTERS.

ENGINEERS' TOOLS, INDICATORS, COUNTERS, Etc.

PACKING AND ASBESTOS GOODS.

AGENTS FOR DOBBIE MCINNIS' NAUTICAL SPECIALTIES.

COLUMBIA RECORDS

"COAL

BLACK

MAMMY"

AT

ANDERSON'S.

Wm. Powell
TELEPHONE C. 3148.

Gentlemen's Tailoring and Outfitting Departments

GREAT REMOVAL

SALE

NOW ON.

All Surplus Stocks of

BOOTS	NECKWEAR	VESTS	in Wool and Cotton
SHOES	SHIRTS	PANTS	
HOSIERY	HATS & CAPS	BAGS, TRUNKS, etc.	

AT BARGAIN PRICES

SUITINGS, OVERCOATINGS, SERGES, etc.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

BRITISH LEGION.

A Return showing how many desire to attend the service in St. John's Cathedral at 10.40 a.m. on ARMISTICE DAY has been called for. Will Members send in to the Hon. Secretary early, please. [1697]

HONGKONG TRAMWAYS, LIMITED.

TRAMWAY ORDINANCE, 1902.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that this Company intends to apply to the Governor-in-Council for power to construct an additional 1113 yards of Tramway Track commencing at their present terminus at Wongneichong village along Wongneichong Road (on the Eastern side of the Happy Valley) and Leighton Hill Road, to connect with the existing line at Morrison Hill Road, in accordance with the plan deposited with the Director of Public Works.

W. E. ROBERTS,
Secretary & General Manager.
2nd November, 1922. [1698]



WANTED.

TWO STOREHOUSEMEN at Kowloon Naval Depot. Apply by letter only to the undersigned stating experience and salary desired.
H. G. LOVE,
Naval Store Officer.
Hongkong, 1st November, 1922. [1701]

TO LET.

SHOPS AND OFFICES.

PERSONS working Shop or Office accommodation in the New Building now being erected on L.A. 2317 & 2318 in Queen's Road Central and Pender Street (Old Post Office site) are invited to inspect the floorplans, which are now ready, and to discuss terms with the undersigned, at R. H. KOTTEWALL & Co., Alexandra Buildings.
R. H. KOTTEWALL. [1700]

THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

NOTICE.

THE FIRST and SECOND ROUNDS of the CHAMPIONSHIP will be played at FAIRLY on SUNDAY NOVEMBER 12th, 1922, the THIRD ROUND and SEMI-FINAL on NOVEMBER 16th, and the FINAL on NOVEMBER 20th.

The Result of the draw is as follows—

J. Rodger, Jr.	J. L. Crockett	Bye
J. E. Warner	F. J. de Rome	Bye
Capt. Bloham		Bye
H. R. Buckland	Mr. H. G. Gandy	
T. W. Hill	R. Davidson	
H. U. Ireland	R. M. Smith	
J. M. Walker	G. S. Archbutt	
F. S. Harrison	N. L. Smith	
Capt. Cunningham	J. B. Ross	
E. J. B. Mitchell	Lieut. W. Bacon	
B. D. C. Morgan	W. Galloway	Bye
	A. B. Stewart	Bye

This notice cancels the previous notice inserted in the Papers on the 31st ultimo.
By Order,
PERCY SMITH, SETH & FLEMING,
Secretaries & Treasurers.
[1702]

PARTICULARS

VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY

Site of No. 13, WING HING STREET, VICTORIA, HONGKONG.
To be sold by Order of the Mortgagee.

PUBLIC AUCTION,

IN ONE LOT

On MONDAY,
The 20th Day of Nov., 1922, at 3 o'clock P.M.

Messrs. LAMBERT BROTHERS,
At Their Office, DUBBEL STREET.

THE Property consists of First ALL THAT piece or parcel of ground situate at Victoria in the Colony of Hongkong and registered in the Land Office as SECTION A of INLAND LOT No. 2186 together with the messuage erections or buildings thereon now known as No. 13, Wing Hing Street and Secondly ALL THAT strip of land at the rear of the said Section A of Inland Lot No. 2186 being a scavenging lane. All of which premises are held for the residue of the term of 75 years from the 15th day of May, 1916, created by the Crown Lease thereof together with the valuable machinery now situate in or upon the said premises and at No. 1 Gordon Street.
Particulars and Conditions of sale may be obtained from
Messrs. HASTINGS & HASTINGS,
Solicitors,
8, Des Voeux Road Central,
and
Messrs. LAMBERT BROTHERS,
Auctioneers.
[1837]

New Consignments of the well-known Yafadisa Egyptian Cigarettes arriving monthly—Crown, Prince, Non Plus Ultra, and Superfine.

FOR THE LADIES—"DAMES" AND "LA FRANCE"

FOR PRICES, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, APPLY AT THE SOLE AGENTS—

HONGKONG CIGAR STORE,
SHIPS SUPPLIED OUT OF BOND.
[1458]

INTIMATIONS

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that we the undersigned have THIS DAY commenced to practice as Solicitors in partnership under the style of LYSON & HALL at No. 6, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong.

C. H. LYSON,
J. M. HALL.
1st November, 1922. [1694]

NOTICE.

THE Firm of Geo. P. LAMBERT carrying on the business of Share, Stock and General Broker will as from the 1st Day of November, 1922, be known under the name and style of Geo. P. & H. A. LAMBERT.

GEORGE PHILIP LAMBERT,
HERBERT ALEXANDER LAMBERT.
1st November, 1922. [1695]

HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LTD.

THE NEW FLATS on K.I.L. 609 (the Old WIGWAM TENNIS CLUB) will be ready for occupation MIDDLE NOVEMBER. Will those who have applied for these Flats kindly communicate with the Secretary, Hongkong, 1st November, 1922. [1692]

RUSSIAN VOLUNTEER FLEET.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:

1. That the legitimate Board of Directors of The Russian Volunteer Fleet has its seat in Moscow.
2. That the undersigned has been appointed Special Delegate in the Far East and Mr. B. J. ELLEDER, Chief Agent for China and Japan, with residence in Shanghai.
3. That transactions and liabilities of any kind contracted by anybody else in the name of the Russian Volunteer Fleet are null and void and will not be recognized by the Russian Volunteer Fleet.

J. LEONIDOFF.

Special Delegate of the Russian Volunteer Fleet in the Far East.

Temporarily Hongkong:
Hongkong Hotel. [1691]

6% FRENCH GOVERNMENT LOAN 1922

PRICE OF ISSUE, Frs. 447.50
(Payable in cash exclusively).

FREE OF TAXES.

NO PRIZES.

NOMINAL VALUE, Frs. 500.00.

Reimbursable at holder's option, as follows—
On the 25th of September, 1923 for Frs. 500.00.
On the 25th of September, 1927 for Frs. 507.50.
Subscription list will be closed on 1st Nov. 7th NOVEMBER, 1922.
Applications will be received by—
THE BANQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE,
Princes Building, Chater Road,
V. MARBOT,
Manager.
Hongkong, 11th October, 1922. [1610]

NATIONAL 5% SHORT TERM BOND

ISSUE OF THE 11th YEAR OF THE CHINESE REPUBLIC. (1922).
\$10,000,000.

WITH reference to previous notices informing the public that the undersigned has been entrusted by the Chinese Government with the service of the Loan and that it will be conducted in all respects on the same lines as the service of the 7th Year Short Term Bond issue of 1918; SUBSCRIBERS to the above Loan are hereby notified that the definitive Bonds are now ready and may be had from the Bank of China on production of their Provisional Receipts. The denominations and numbers of the Bonds are as follows—

\$10,000 from 0000001 to 0000000
\$1,000 from 0000001 to 0000000
\$100 from 0000001 to 0000000

The above Bonds have been checked by representatives of the National Loans Bureau, the Audit Department, the Bank of China, and the Inspector General of Customs, who have also witnessed the destruction of the stones from which the Bonds were printed.
F. A. AGLEN,
Inspector General of Customs,
Peking, 19th October, 1922. [1675]

THE CORONET.

THE FLAME OF LIFE.

KOWLOON THEATRE.

THE WOMAN IN ROOM 13.

INTIMATIONS

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

INTERPORT MATCH.

MANILA v. HONGKONG.

A DINNER, which all Members and Subscribers are invited to attend, will be given at the Hongkong Hotel on WEDNESDAY, 8th NOVEMBER, 1922, at 8 P.M. Cost of Dinner, \$3.50 per head exclusive of Wines. Those wishing to attend are requested to send in their names to F. BAYBROS & Co. Ltd., on or before 5 P.M. on MONDAY, 6th NOVEMBER. [1690]

THE HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

THE FIFTH GYMKHANA is fixed for SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18th, 1922. Draft Programmes and Entry Forms may be obtained at Race Course, Hongkong Club and Causeway Bay Stables.
Entries close Saturday, 4th November, 1922. [1686]

NOTICE.

TAKE NOTICE that on the 1st NOVEMBER, 1922, the "PACIFIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY" will change their name to "THE ADMIRAL ORIENTAL LINE, INC." under which latter name the business will be continued as before.

Dated this 25th day of October, 1922.
PACIFIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
[1693]

THE CHINA LIGHT & POWER CO. (1913), LTD.

THE FOURTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of the Company, St. George's Building, Chater Road, Victoria, Hongkong, on THURSDAY, the 9th NOVEMBER, 1922, at 11 O'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the General Managers for the year ending 30th September, 1922, and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from TUESDAY, the 31st October, 1922, until THURSDAY, the 9th November, 1922, both days inclusive.
SHEWAN TOMES & CO.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 19th October, 1922. [1640]

FOR SALE.

LAND, approximately 7,000 square feet on waterfront at Saiwai with modern 2 storied brick and concrete building suitable for office and godown.
Further details apply.
[485] W. G. HUMPHREYS, & CO.

SS. "ARMAND BEHIC"

SERVICES CONTRACTUELS DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from MARSEILLE, also Cargo from COGNAC, in connection with above Steamer are hereby informed that Goods, with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables, are being landed and stored at their risks into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co. Ltd., Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained immediately after landing.
Optional Cargo will be forwarded on unless intimation is received from the Consignee before noon, To-day, requesting it to be landed here.

Goods of Lading will be counterchecked by the Underpaid Goods remained unclaimed after Thursday, the 2nd Nov., 1922, at Noon, will be subject to rent and landing charges.
All claims must be sent in to me on or before the 6th Nov., 1922, or they will not be recognized.
All damaged packages will be examined on Thursday, the 2nd Nov., 1922, at 10 A.M., by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas.
No Fire Insurance has been effected.
E. RODENFUSER,
Acting Agent.
Hongkong, 27th October, 1922. [1678]

J. B. LAL

THE ABLE INDIAN PHYSICIAN FROM SINGAPORE.

is now ready to receive anyone who wishes to consult him on the following diseases, viz., Cold, Catarrh, Headache, Rheumatism, Earpain, Giddiness, Toothache, Running of the Nose, Neuralgia, etc., etc., and

GUARANTEES TO CURE

the above diseases in less than

TWO MINUTES.

I can cure all kinds of Eye diseases as well as other sicknesses and guarantee to cure radically.

\$1,000 REWARD.

A Reward of \$1,000 (one thousand) will be paid to any person who is able to cure the above mentioned disease within 2 minutes providing he does not make use of any medicine.

The medicine is my own preparation.

Consulting charge ... \$3.00

Visiting Fee ... 5.00

Consulting hours 9 A.M. to 12 Noon.

" " 3 P.M. to 6 P.M.

J. B. LAL,

No. 12, NATHAN ROAD,

KOWLOON.

[1835]

ON SALE.

BOUND VOLUMES of the HONGKONG WEEKLY PRESS, January to June 1922.
With Index. Price \$7.50.
On sale at the Hongkong Daily Press.

INTIMATION

W. & A. GILBEYS

"SPEY ROYAL"

SCOTCH WHISKY.

THE CHOICEST and OLDEST procurable.

Messrs. W. & A. Gilbey,

Ltd., being the proprietors of

Three Highland Distilleries,

are in a position second to

none to supply the finest

possible Scotch Whisky.

"SPEY ROYAL" Scotch

Whisky has been matured

for many years in their own

Excise Bonded Warehouse,

and has been specially stored

in Sherry Casks.

SOLE AGENTS—

A. S. WATSON & CO. LTD.,

Wine & Spirit Merchants.

BIRTH.

HUNTER—At Yokohama, on October 19th, to Mr. and Mrs. A. A. HUNTER, a son.

DEATH.

HOLGATE—At Shanghai, on October 31st, MARGARET, the wife of HAROLD HOLGATE. [1698]

HONGKONG OFFICE: 104, DES VOEUX RD., C. LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, NOVEMBER 2ND, 1922.

ESPERANTO AS A WORLD LANGUAGE.

It is somewhat surprising to learn from the official reports of the proceedings of the League of Nations how favourable has been the reception given to a proposal that Esperanto should be adopted as an auxiliary international language. Most readers have doubtless heard of Esperanto, but probably know nothing about the language but its name. Esperanto was first published in 1887, seven years after the appearance of its predecessor, Volapuk, which it has long since completely supplanted. Its author was a Russian physician named ZAMENHOFF, who was born at Bielsk, where, we are told, the spectacle of the feuds of the four races—each speaking different languages—which inhabit it (Russians, Poles, Germans and Jews) suggested to him the idea of remedying the evil by the introduction of a neutral language, standing apart from the existing national languages. He selected the roots of his artificial language from the chief European languages, was at great pains to reduce the number of his roots to a minimum, and borrowed his grammar largely from existing languages. Esperanto appears to have obtained a vogue which is surprising. The findings of the League of Nations Committee were definitely in favour of Esperanto though they have taken *festina lente* as their motto. Professor GILBERT MURRAY submitted to the Committee a series of draft resolutions. The first proposed that the Assembly of the League of Nations should instruct the

Secretariat to continue to watch the progress of Esperanto and report on it. The second resolution read: "In view of the fact that Esperanto is recognised by several States Members of the League as an auxiliary world language for commerce and science, and that it is used by thousands of people in many countries in international relations, the Assembly of the League of Nations invites States Members to consider, at the forthcoming Postal Conference, the possibility of admitting Esperanto in the postal and telegraphic services, in addition to national languages." Another draft resolution declared that "the Assembly of the League of Nations sees with interest the increased facilities for the teaching of Esperanto now provided in schools of many nations, and hopes to see such facilities still further extended." The second and third of these resolutions were not adopted by the Committee, but the discussion was very interesting. Three opinions were expressed. Some members of the Committee, among whom the Delegates of China, Japan and Persia were conspicuous, supported Professor GILBERT MURRAY's draft resolutions, and urged that the League of Nations should make proposals to the Governments to extend the use of Esperanto on the ground of the great difficulty in those regions of learning Western languages. On the other hand, the Norwegian, Brazilian, Swedish and certain other delegates declared themselves entirely opposed to any intervention in such matters by the League of Nations. They maintained that, the study of a new language, which was purely artificial and had no literature and no national home, offered no serious interest, and that its introduction in the schools would overweight the curricula, without affording any real benefit to the children. The Cuban delegate also emphasised the fact that the official admission of Esperanto into the postal and telegraphic services, in addition to the national languages, would impose upon all States the necessity of a costly organisation, inasmuch as staffs would have to be increased by the appointment of employees acquainted with Esperanto. In short, several members spoke in favour of the immediate rejection of the proposed resolutions. An intermediary opinion prevailed, which found expression in an amendment presented by the French delegate that the question should be referred to the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation in order that its opinion may be obtained on the various aspects of the problem of an auxiliary international language. We doubt whether Esperanto will ever realise the hopes of the Esperantist Societies. It is, as one of the Delegates expressed it, "permissible to reserve an opinion as to the practical results which can be obtained from Esperanto and as to the extent of its uses." By the adoption of the suggestion to refer the question to the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, it is evident that an early decision on the matter is not expected, for a paragraph in the Committee Report reads: "When the opinion of this Committee has been obtained it will be for the League of Nations to reconsider the question; it will then be in possession of an important factor on which to base its judgment, but until then it should reserve any decision and refuse to enter into any engagement. However, there will be ample time for the Esperanto language to spread and to prove its vitality. Its task should be, in the first place, to prove that it is useful and able to fulfil the role which it has assumed. The success which it is able to achieve in the interval will be the best proof of its strength and of its prospects for the future." There we may well leave the matter.

The Governor of Canton is being asked to abolish the house tax.

Mr. Kim Chang, who is president of the Government Law College at Canton, has been appointed mayor of Canton.

Watch-makers who have been on strike at Canton have decided to set up in business for themselves on a profit sharing basis.

The Manila Observatory at noon, yesterday reported a cyclone or typhoon South of the Bonin Islands, moving N.N.E. or N.E.

The little daughter of an Indian constable, living at No. 113, Belcher Street, overbalanced and fell from the first floor of the house on Tuesday.

She is now in hospital suffering from serious injuries as the result of the accident.

The Chinese Government has appropriated \$300,000 for the expenses of the Judicial Investigation Commission to tour the Provinces and prepare for the investigation by the Powers of China's judicial system in connection with the proposal to abolish extraterritoriality.

Sir Claude Hill, General Secretary of the League of Red Cross Societies at Geneva, has arrived in Japan. On reaching Tokyo he was received by Sir Charles Eliot, the British Ambassador, and officials of the Japan Red Cross Society. Sir Claude Hill is the guest of the Embassy.

In order to certify the number of notes of the Kwangtung Provincial Bank, as required under the recent Loan agreement, a Committee of twenty-eight members representing the Provincial Assembly and the Chamber of Commerce has been formed to undertake the investigation.

Notice is given in our advertisement columns to-day that the Hongkong Tramways, Limited, are seeking powers to construct an additional 1,113 yards of tramway track along Wongneichong Road (on the eastern side of Happy Valley) and Leighton Hill Road, to connect with the existing line at Morrison Hill Road.

Possessing the combined advantages of a superb scenic background and a virtue plot, "The Flame of Life," the first Finnish film to be shown in Hongkong, is attracting a good deal of attention at the Coronet just now. The picture was produced by the Swedish Biograph Co., and the part of the hero is excellently portrayed by Lars Hanson, a noted Swedish actor.

A Chinese, who was arrested sometime ago by Sanitary Inspector Wood immediately after he had broken into No. 3, Cox's Path, Kowloon, and who has been in hospital as the result of an injury received in attempting to escape from the house, was sentenced, yesterday morning, to three months' imprisonment by Mr. Lindsell at the Magistracy. The man stole a watch from No. 3, Cox's Path, whilst in his possession was found a waistcoat belonging to a Mr. East of No. 5, Cox's Path.

The Reading Circle of the Helena May Institute will begin its Winter Course, (to-day, November 2nd), at 10.30 a.m., when Professor Simpson will read a paper on "The Plays of John Galsworthy." On the following Thursday the members will read Galsworthy's play "Justice," and other meetings will be held on November 11th, 23rd, 30th and December 7th at the same hour. Anyone who is interested in the work of the Reading Circle is cordially invited to attend any of its meetings.—ADVT.

About seven months ago a Chinese named Tam Sui, living at Square Street, entrusted a friend of his, one Chan Man Kok, a motor driver—with \$750 to buy him a motor-car. Nothing further was heard of the money, or the car until a month ago when Tam met the motor-driver and made a few enquiries regarding delivery of the vehicle. The motor-driver said that he had "found a purchaser for the car." He promised to return the money in the course of a few days, but from that day to this the motor-driver has not been seen nor heard of. The police are now trying to ascertain his whereabouts.

Mr. J. B. Sutor, who has been Trade Commissioner for New South Wales in the East for the past twenty years, left Hongkong yesterday en route to Australia, where he has been invited to offer himself as a candidate for the Macquarie electorate in the Federal Parliament. Mr. Sutor came out to Hongkong in 1903, and subsequently travelled through British Malaya, Burma and India, eventually making Japan his headquarters. He claims to have built up the woollen trade between Australia and Japan—a trade which has aggregated ninety millions sterling, of which eleven millions represents the balance in Australia's favour. When the banks refused to open credits in the early part of the war he kept commerce going between the two nations by obtaining authority from his Government to hold gold against Australian shipments. He has received many gratifying evidences of appreciation of his work both from officials and the commercial community. It is interesting to recall that Mr. Sutor belongs to the oldest pioneering family in Australia, their connection with the island-continent dating back to 1788. The family now numbers 1,064 and sent 184 of its members to the war.

CABLES.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

MORE FIGHTING IN IRELAND.
A NATIONALIST DEFEAT.

London, October 31st.

Using an improvised armoured car as cover for the purpose of laying mines to blow up the barracks, a strong column of irregulars, on Sunday, attacked the Clifden Garrison. The latter held out for ten hours, until the barracks caught fire, when they were compelled to emerge and surrender.

The garrison of the Trans-Atlantic Wireless Station, which this became untenable, strenuously tried to relieve the town, but were compelled to retreat towards Galway. Several were killed and wounded on both sides and eighty members of the National Forces were taken prisoners.

AMERICAN COPPER
MAGNATES' ESTATE.

London, October 31st.

The estate of the late Mr. Isaac Cuguenheim, (the American copper magnate, who died at Southampton on October 10th) has been valued at \$8,000,000.

EARLIER CABLES.

THE BRITISH MINISTRY.
FURTHER APPOINTMENT
ANNOUNCED.

London, October 31st.

Further Ministerial appointments are announced as follows:—

Minister of Air.—Lt.-Col. Sir Samuel Hoare.
Minister of Labour.—Sir Montague Barlow.
Minister of Pensions.—Major G. C. Tryon.
First Commissioner of Works.—Major Sir John L. Baird.
Solicitor General.—Mr. T. W. H. Inskip.
Postmaster General.—Mr. Neville Chamberlain.

UNDER-SECRETARIES.

The Under-Secretaries include the following:—

India.—Earl Winterton.
Foreign Affairs.—Mr. Ronald McNeill.
Colonies.—Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby-Gore.
Financial Secretary to War Office.—Hon. F. S. Jackson.
Overseas Trade.—Sir W. Joynson-Hicks.
War Office.—Hon. Walter E. Guinness.
Secretary to the Treasury.—Colonel Leslie Wilson.
Home Office.—Hon. F. G. Stanley.
Air Ministry.—Duke of Sutherland.
Financial Secretary to Admiralty.—Comdr. Eyres Monsell.
Civil Lord of Admiralty.—Marquis of Linlithgow.
Board of Trade.—Lord Wolmer.
Transport.—Col. William Ashley.
Health.—Lord Onslow.
Agriculture.—Lord Anster.
[The Hon. F. S. Jackson is the noted cricketer.]

NEAR EAST CONFERENCE.
WHICH GOVERNMENT?

CONSTANTINOPLE, October 31st.—The Angora representative has handed the Allied High Commissioners two Notes, firstly, accepting Lausanne as the venue of the Near East Conference, subject to the provision of facilities for communication between Lausanne and Angora; and secondly, protesting against the invitation of the Constantinople Government to the Conference, which the Angora Government considers a violation of the spirit of the Mudania Convention and may compel Angora representatives to abstain from attending the Conference.

AMERICAN RELIEF WORKER
MURDERED.

New York, October 31st.

The Near East Relief Committee announces that one of its workers, Mr. James Lester Wright, has been murdered while conducting a thousand Armenian orphans from Kharput to Aleppo.

THE INDUSTRIAL OUTLOOK.
POSSIBLE TRADE REVIVAL.

London, October 31st.

In a speech before the Federation of British Industries at Edinburgh, Colonel O. C. Armstrong, President, expressed the opinion that a possible revival of trade was in sight. He urged a readjustment of the Reparations claims and advocated a round-table conference with a view to a prompt and reasonable compromise. The situation was so serious that immediate and drastic action was necessary. He referred to the retarding influence of hostile tariff barriers and suggested that British manufacturers should look outside of Europe—for example, South America and the Far East. He said German competition was weakening as her financial position became worse, while the United States policy with regard to tariffs and Inter-Allied Debt would considerably restrict upon her power to compete in external markets.

LATEST CABLES.

BRITISH ELECTION CAMPAIGN
NATIONAL LIBERALS' COUNCIL OF
WAR.

London, October 31st.

The National Liberals' Council of War, which lasted all day yesterday, failed to reach a decision regarding their relationship to the Conservatives, who, up to the present, are opposing thirty National Liberals including four ex-Ministers.

Mr. Lloyd George's followers are most reluctant to declare war, and will probably wait for a day or two, to see whether the hostile movement on the part of their former colleagues extends, before taking decisive action.

MR. CHURCHILL ATTACKS NEW
GOVERNMENT.

In the meantime, Mr. Churchill, who is rapidly convalescing, has written to his constituents warmly attacking the new Government's policy.

The breach between Mr. Chamberlain's followers and the orthodox Conservatives has considerably healed within the past few days, but a few, like Lord Birkenhead and Sir Robert Horne, are apparently swinging towards Mr. Lloyd George.

STIFFENING THE DIEMARDS.

London, October 31st.

The new ministerial appointments are noteworthy, owing to the inclusion of four Peers in addition to Earl Winterton, and Lord Wolmer, who sit in the House of Commons, and also for the stiffening of the Diemard element in the Ministry, in which four important posts remain to be filled. Twenty-one of those appointed held office in the late Government.

The new appointments are regarded as a fresh provocation to the National Liberals, and Mr. Lloyd George's next utterance in anxious awaited. Unfortunately, it was announced, today, that Mr. Lloyd George was suffering from a bad throat and will be unable to speak at Bristol to-morrow.

"MANCHESTER GUARDIAN'S"
ADVICE TO LLOYD GEORGE.

The Manchester Guardian, which is ardently preaching the gospel of Liberal reunion, asks Mr. Lloyd George to consider his position without delay, in view of the prospect of a return of the "most reactionary government in modern times" and the obvious fact that the Conservatives do not desire his assistance. It declares that it is unnecessary for Mr. Lloyd George to swear allegiance to Mr. Asquith, as he only needs to declare himself a Liberal and local associations will do the rest. It then dwells on the evidence of the personal popularity of Mr. Lloyd George, which, it states, is his most valuable asset.

EARLIER CABLES.

CONSERVATIVES AND NATIONAL
LIBERALS QUARREL.

London, October 31st.

A quarrel is developing between Conservatives and the National Liberals. According to political correspondents, local Conservative Associations are angered at Mr. Lloyd George's speeches ridiculing the Government and are increasingly adopting candidates to fight National Liberals.

Mr. Lloyd George is described as being infuriated and as threatening reprisals. The headquarters of the National Liberals claim that they can put an additional hundred candidates in the field who are burning to fight Conservatives if the National Liberals are not given a fair chance.

Mr. McCurdy told the Northampton Liberals that he, as Chief Whip, has refrained from sending National Liberals to oppose Independent Liberals, and he hoped his example would be followed by both sections.

ULSTER DELEGATES TO
PARTICIPATE.

London, October 31st.

A hundred and fifty of 300 Ulstermen, delegated to participate in the election, have landed at Liverpool. They will be distributed in batches of ten in London and other cities. They bring a statement from Sir James Craig declaring that it is incumbent on Ulster to resist the revision of boundaries, which Mr. Lloyd George promised Sinn Fein, and are seeking assurances from British Parliamentary candidates that the new Government will safeguard Ulster's interests.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR
CONFERENCE.

CANADIAN PROPOSAL ADOPTED.

Geneva, October 31st.

The International Labour Conference has adopted a proposal by Mr. Lapointe, of Canada, whereby six of the sixteen members of the Governing Body must belong to non-European States.

FAR EASTERN CABLE
NEWS.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

THE ALLEGED BANK FRAUDS.

STATEMENT BY HENRY WERBLOW.

New York, October 31st.

A statement has been issued by Henry Werblow, through his counsel, in which he declares that he and his brother Robert are the victims of an international band of criminals, who conceived the plan for swindling the Guaranty Trust through the Asia Banking Corporation, by a system of forged telegrams passing between China, London and New York.

Henry Werblow explains that, the forged cables led him to believe his brother was implicated, and he deduced that it was his efforts to protect his brother, and to save the bank, which led to his arrest.

The President of the Asia Banking Corporation informs Reuter that, Henry Werblow returned voluntarily from Peking, and was not lured to America, as previously stated.

ITALY'S NEW GOVERNMENT.
A POLICY OF RECONSTRUCTION.

Rome, October 31st.

Signor Mussolini's first words on being received in audience by the King were:—"I must apologise for appearing before your Majesty in the black shirt." He added that he wished to present himself as the representative of a national movement which had overthrown all obstacles in order to reconstruct the country, "for which purpose I am your Majesty's obedient servant." The King and Signor Mussolini then shook hands, pledging themselves to work together for the greatness of Italy.

Signor Mussolini has ordered that only 15,000 "Black-shirts" enter Rome to-day to pay homage to the King and a tribute to the Unknown Warrior. The streets yesterday however, were swarming with Fascist fraternising with the troops. There was a fight between the Fascists and Communists in the Sibirius quarter, and according to the papers eight were killed and several injured.

FASCIST DEMOBILISATION.

Rome, October 31st.

The Fascist High Command has ordered the demobilisation of the Fascists. The numerous Fascist now in Rome will proceed to their homes after a patriotic procession in the evening.

The situation in Italy is now regarded as normal.

AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE
RESIGNS.

Paris, October 31st.

Signor Storza, telegraphing his resignation to Signor Mussolini, declares that it is essential that Italy's foreign policy be not a mere sum of sentiments and resentments, and he regrets abandoning his fruitful work.

NEW GOVERNMENT TAKES THE
OATH.

Rome, October 31st.

Signor Mussolini's Government took the oath to-day.

FASCISTI PROCESSION.

Rome, October 31st.

There were stirring scenes of enthusiasm on the occasion of 15,000 uniformed Fascist marching in procession along the main thoroughfares.

EXTRAORDINARY SCENES OF
ENTHUSIASM.

Later.

Signor Mussolini, telegraphing greetings to Mr. Bonar Law and Mr. Poincaré on his assumption of the Premiership, declares that the solidarity of the Allies is indispensable for the effectiveness of political action. He has similarly telegraphed to the United States to Mr. Hughes, expressing confidence in a mutual and friendly economic and spiritual collaboration.

Extraordinary scenes of enthusiasm marked the march through Rome of 15,000 Fascists, clad in the famous black shirts. There were several thousand blue-shirted Nationalists. The streets were decorated and flowers were rained on the processionists, who, after filing past and reverently saluting the Unknown Soldier's tomb, proceeded to the Quirinal Square where over 100,000 people assembled. His Majesty came out and was received with tumultuous cheering. The men reformed and were despatched to their homes on fifty special trains, prior to demobilisation.

PUNCTUALITY FOR GOVERNMENT
SERVANTS.

One of Signor Mussolini's first acts when he took over the ministerial duties, unusually early in the morning, was to ascertain whether the State employes were observing punctuality. If not he ordered their dismissal as being unworthy to serve the State. The new Premier donned a newly-ordered ready-made frock coat and top hat before proceeding to the Quirinal, where he presented to the King a frank statement of conditions in Italy. His Majesty read the oath of office, which Signor Mussolini solemnly took, giving a characteristic Fascist salute copied from the ancient Romans.

A SHANGHAI BANKRUPTCY.
APPLICATION FOR DISCHARGE
REFUSED.

A BUSINESS MAN'S DUTY.

In the application for discharge in bankruptcy, made by Mr. A. E. S. Thompson in H.M. Supreme Court, at Shanghai, His Honour Judge Grain came to the conclusion that he could see no reason whatever for granting the application, which was accordingly refused.

Judgment was as follows:—

The bankrupt, Alfred Eric Sheppard Thompson, now applies for his discharge, he having been adjudged bankrupt in April, 1921. The Official Receiver in Bankruptcy opposes the application and it is also opposed by certain creditors, namely, the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and Messrs. James Morrison & Co., Ltd.

The bankrupt's statement of affairs disclosed liabilities of £43,088.33 and assets estimated at £11,184.80, leaving a deficiency of £31,903.53. The trustee has admitted proofs of debts amounting to about £17,355.06. The assets will realize about £17,000. So that the present deficiency is at least £14,903.53. The dividend which appears likely to be paid is no more than 2½d. in the £ sterling, i.e. 0.01 in the £.

The Official Receiver opposes the application on the ground:—

- (a)—Assets not of the value of 10/- in £ sterling.
- (b)—Bankrupt omitted to keep books in a manner sufficient to disclose his business transactions and financial position within the three years previous to his bankruptcy.
- (c)—Unjustifiable extravagance in living.
- (d)—That he had within three months previous to his bankruptcy given undue preference to one of his creditors.

The two creditors oppose the application on the ground:

- (1)—That bankrupt had continued to trade after knowing himself to be insolvent.
- (2)—That he had contributed to his bankruptcy by rash and hazardous speculation and culpable neglect of his business affairs.

The amount owing to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank is about £19,684.80 and to Messrs. Morrison & Co. £1,000,000 at least. The Court in considering the application for discharge has an almost unlimited discretion and in considering the application it is its duty to have regard to the interests of the creditors, the interests of the public and commercial morality, but at the same time if possible to free the bankrupt from his burdens and give him again an opportunity of earning his living by commercial undertakings and giving him an inducement to industry.

With regard to the first ground of opposition by the Official Receiver it is clear that the bankrupt will not be able to pay anything near 10/- in £ sterling.

THE BUSINESS OF BOOK-KEEPING.

With regard to the books, a report by Mr. Turner, a chartered accountant in the firm of Mr. A. S. Seth, the trustee in bankruptcy, is put in, which states that although the correct set of books were kept, nevertheless until after lengthy examination the entries were unintelligible. On examination of the books it appears in the opinion of Mr. Turner, Thompson was insolvent on June 30th, 1920. Mr. Turner was also called and gave evidence supporting his report. Mr. Wilkinson also, a chartered accountant was called on behalf of the bankrupt and stated that the books were elaborately kept, "perhaps too elaborately," that his firm had audited the books since 1919 and considered that his books were kept about the average of book-keeping in Shanghai. But he agrees that they were "to a great extent unintelligible until necessary explanations had been given, and considers that it would take a month for an experienced accountant to get a result from the bankrupt's books." Now the book-keeping which the Courts require is very clearly laid down by Lord Esher M.R. in *ex parte Reed* (1886, L.R. Vol. 17 Q.B.D. p. 254). He says there: "It is not enough that there should be books with entries in them which would require a prolonged examination by a skilled accountant in order to ascertain the results of them. This is not keeping proper books. The books should be properly kept and balanced from time to time so that at any moment the real state of the trader's affairs may at once appear. Those are the books which traders ought to keep."

The bankrupt does not admit that he was insolvent in June, 1920, and states that he is satisfied he was perfectly solvent up to October, 1920. He states that his capital in June, 1920, was £15,000. Now I fail to understand how he could have considered himself solvent in June, 1920.

A STATE OF INSOLVENCY.

Messrs. Morrison & Co., in a letter dated May, 1920, had put his position very clearly before him. They say that they have received his balance sheet but that it is not intelligible to them, but if they accept his statement that his capital is at that time £15,000 (roughly £15,000) they point out that at that date, he certainly owed them half his capital, viz. £7,500 due to them, plus £1,500 the loss on a shipment of alumina, making a total of £9,000. Now it is difficult to understand how the bankrupt with knowledge of his other liabilities could fail to see that he was insolvent. He does go so far as to admit, "It was a serious position, and I relied upon exchange going up." And further his cable to Messrs. Morrison & Co. on June 11th, 1920, ordering cancellation of goods if (Continued at foot of next column.)

SPORT.

CRICKET.

MACLAREN'S TEAM FOR AUSTRALIA.

A London wire of September 30th states:—

Mr. A. C. MacLaren's team of cricketers for Australia and New Zealand has sailed. When interviewed Mr. MacLaren said: "I am somewhat anxious about the team's batting, but the bowling looks sound. Freeman is certain to succeed, and Calhorne is our main strength. The Australian State teams will probably beat us. We may have to meet E. A. Macdonald, who, probably, is returning to Australia. Frankly, I am funkling to play with so little practice. It takes at least a fortnight to get accustomed to the bright Australian light. I am quite prepared for a bad start, but I shall tell the team that that will be no cause for them to lose heart. We shall get on capitally and solidly, as good cricketers always do."

In an interview with a representative of the *Westminster Gazette*, Mr. MacLaren said that he considered batting and fielding were the team's uncertainties. Most of the members of the team were amateurs, too likely to adopt the "sporting" spirit. Chapman was almost certain to do well. Geoffrey Wilson had recovered from his operation and would be most valuable in the field. Meeting Macdonald should be all for the good for batsmen, who needed the experience of such redoubtable bowling. Macdonald had not been in his best health this summer, and he would have taken more wickets if he had first-class fielders in the slips. The practice of sending junior teams on a tour would be most valuable to future English cricketers. The picked team of young men was likely to improve quite 30 per cent. during the tour.

possible and ending: "Do what you can to relieve the situation" shows that he was well aware of the seriousness of his position.

Mr. Birch of Messrs. Morrison & Co., who gave his evidence scrupulously fairly, states a large indirect loss would have been avoided if the bankrupt would only have settled exchange in September or October, 1920. There was an opportunity then to settle exchange 10 months forward. Mr. Birch states he was continually pressing the bankrupt to do so, but he could not get him to do so, that he kept delaying, one day saying he would and the next day that he would not, till the time arrived when it was not possible to do so. I can come to no other conclusion than that he totally disregarded the interests of his creditors, knowing that the extra loss could not make his own position worse than it was, while if exchange went up he himself might just save his bankruptcy.

There is further no doubt, that in spite of his explanation for so doing, he did give undue preference to two of his creditors. When a man is on the eve of bankruptcy and must know his position, and Thompson must have known his position in January, 1921, it is his duty not to interfere in any way between his creditors. As Lord Esher says (in *ex parte Skegg*, 1880 L.R. 25 Q.B.D. 409): "The only honest course for a man in such a position is not to interfere in any way between his creditors, so as to give any one of them a preference over the others. He knows that, if he is made bankrupt, his property will be shared equally by all creditors."

NO EFFORT TO REPAY.

There is also one other matter which I feel bound to refer to. Since the time he was adjudged bankrupt he has not shown the slightest effort to repay his creditors any amount whatsoever. He has been receiving £15,400 a month, which has recently been increased to £15,500 a month, and his wife has some small private means. I cannot help thinking that the first thing he ought to have done would have been to have reduced his expenditure to a minimum, giving up all idem of expense not absolutely necessary, in order that he might obtain some surplus, however small, with which to repay his creditors. But that he has clearly not done because, as regards expenditure, according to his own statements he has been living in much the same style as he did before he went bankrupt.

With regard to his not being able to pay 10/- in the £ sterling, and continuing trading, it is clearly laid down in innumerable cases, that a man has every right to continue trading in what at the time appears to be a business in which there is a chance of a severe loss so long as he is solvent. But directly he sees from his books of accounts that he has arrived at the state of affairs when he is unable to pay his creditors 10/- in the £ sterling; if he continues to carry on his business on the chance of further loss, he is doing so at the risk of his creditors. He may think that if he continues, it will be possible to retrieve his position and so save loss to himself and his creditors. But it is his duty to call his creditors together (because it is they who will have to bear the extra loss if he continues) and place his affairs before them for their determination.

It has been urged that the bankrupt is a young man, but in my opinion that is an element which should have made him all the more careful. If he was young and inexperienced, so much the more reason for him to consult his creditors who, in all probability, would be older and more experienced men.

On going very carefully into all the points put before me, with very great skill by counsel on behalf of the bankrupt, I can see no reason whatever for granting this application for discharge. The discharge from bankruptcy applied for is therefore refused with costs.

U.S. TARIFF ACT.

PRESIDENT'S BROAD POWERS.
(FROM "THE TIMES" CORRESPONDENT.)

WASHINGTON, September 30th. The experts of the Treasury estimate that the new Tariff will yield about \$400,000,000 (nominally \$280,000,000) annual revenue, half of which will be derived from the following sources: sugar, \$67,000,000; raw wool, \$60,000,000; tobacco, \$55,000,000; lace and embroideries, \$18,000,000. While the average ad valorem rates as set forth in the Bill are slightly higher than those of the Payne-Aldrich Tariff, they will in actual operation show an average slightly lower, because some of the new duties, particularly those on cutlery, are so high that they will be inoperative, while others, including most in the agricultural schedule, will also be inoperative because there is an absence of imports in the commodities they cover.

Perhaps the most notable feature of the measure is the broad authority given to the President over taxes at Customs Houses. Upon investigation he may increase or decrease any rate in the Bill by fifty per cent. should he find that necessary in order to set off the difference in the cost of production at home and abroad. What is more, the President may declare American valuations as the basis for the assessment of ad valorem duties. If such a basis is used, the duties may not be increased, but the experts estimate that the adoption of the American rather than the foreign valuation would automatically bring about an average increase of about 100 per cent. in the rates. After declaring the American valuation, however, the President could reduce any duty by 50 per cent.

These are known as "flexible tariff" provisions, and the Tariff Commission is authorized to assist the President in carrying them out by holding investigations at which the interested parties could appear and submit arguments.

The final debate produced little that was new, save a prediction by Senator Underwood, the Democratic leader, that the "flexible tariff" provisions would be unconstitutional. Congress, in giving the President authority to change the rates, was, he said, abdicating its power. The final vote was taken in an air rather of foreboding than of satisfaction. The Fordney-McCumber Tariff provides very high rates, and it was remembered that twice in one generation have tariffs with very high rates brought about the defeat of the Republican Party.

AMERICA AND EUROPE
MOVING WEST.

The arresting idea that America and Europe are slowly drifting towards the West was discussed by Dr. J. W. Evans in a paper before the British Association on Wegener's hypothesis of Continental drift. Wegener, he said, was under the impression that America was going west faster than Europe, and that the longitude of Cambridge, Massachusetts, was increasing, while Greenland was moving in the same direction at a still more rapid rate. The continents were composed largely of rocks rich in silica and alumina, termed sial; while those below the sea were less siliceous and heavier, and had been referred to as sima. This extended under the sial of the continent, and Wegener believed that the sial masses drift through the sima like icebergs through the sea. The sima, however, was a crystallising solid down to a depth of fifteen miles, and was as strong, if not stronger than, the sial slab. By over-thrusts and crumbling some areas, continued Dr. Evans, were brought nearer together, and by assuring igneous intrusions, and normal faulting others, were moving apart. There was some evidence of a slow drift away from Africa and towards the Pacific, but there was nothing to show that this was as rapid as was assumed by Dr. Wegener. One point in favour of the contention was that the difference between the longitude at Greenwich and Cambridge, Massachusetts, had increased by 0.023 of a second of time in forty-two years, which would correspond to a movement of about 7½ in. per annum, equal to about one mile in 2,000 years, or 2,500 miles, the width of the Atlantic, in 18,000,000 years.

SUNBURN IN FIVE MINUTES.

Sunburn is sometimes rather painful and occasionally disfiguring, but that healthy brown that comes from an open-air sun-lit holiday is desired by both men and women.

It has long been known (says a writer in *Conquest*) that the pigmentation of the skin in sunlight was not due to the sun's heat, but to the sun's light, and it was just as well known that no one could get sunburned by sitting close to a gas light.

Of late years, it has been found, that the brown of the skin was caused chiefly by ultra-violet light. Sunlight always has plenty of this light element in it, but it is so easily stopped by cloud or moisture that only a small percentage of it reaches the faces of the population of these islands.

Science, however, has provided us with means of producing ultra-violet rays, quite apart from sunlight. There are several ways of doing it, but one of the simplest is by means of the mercury vapour lamp. Those who work with this invention know how quickly their hands get brown, and the face and arms are more sensitive than the hands.

Few of us can use such light in our own houses, and perhaps it is as well, but it is interesting to know that a beautiful sun-burn can be obtained in ten minutes or so by exposure to these rays, without any of the troublesome heat effects of sheer sunlight.

Further reports as to the conflicts at the recent Conference of the Russian Communist Party show that the Extreme Left gained control, and with it control of the Soviet Government's policy.

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OLD AND NEW BANK OF ENGLAND.

[FROM "THE TIMES"]

There is great deal of beauty and sentiment about the Bank of England. One cannot quite comprehend the Bank of England without taking those qualities into account along with the bills and the bullion. The rebuilding now announced may, and probably will, involve the loss of some of the beauty and more of the sentiment. As this is inevitable nobody can complain. The Bank of England, being busier than ever before in the course of its long and businesslike history, cannot afford to have its clerks scattered here and there.

The sentiment attaching to the Bank will be understood. It arises from tradition, power, dignity, and association. Most Londoners have seen, in the early evening, the detachment of guards marching to duty at the bank; and they will talk, as they watch the little procession, of the conditions of its service. Especially are they impressed with the officers' privilege of each inviting one friend to share his dinner and wine, and also his vigil. The guards have been ready to defend the bank at night since the Lord George Gordon riots, and though since then London has had a century of opportunity to get used to the custom, its interest has not yet dwindled into monotony, probably because it symbolizes the bank's high significance. This military watch is a reality and no mere form. None the less has it for Londoners the sentiment attaching to long usage.

In one of the inner halls hang relics of another martial association. Arranged in a gleaming circle are the swords of the old Volunteer Corps of the Bank of England, started when Napoleon was threatening the country. On either side hang the colours, blackened by time, of this corps—the very colours depicted in an oil painting of the ceremony of their presentation on Lord's Cricket Ground towards the end of the eighteenth century. Judging from the painting, the uniform of the corps then resembled that of the Grenadiers. The men are in scarlet cutaway coats, white breeches, and high black gaiters; much the same costume as we saw the other day in the pageant of Changing the Guard at the Royal Tournament.

ROTUNDA TO DISAPPEAR.

The rotunda, it seems, will disappear under the rebuilding scheme. This is a pity, as the architects evidently feel; because much of the sentiment of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries appears still to be alive beneath the great domed roof. Stirring scenes have been witnessed here until a day comparatively recent. When it was the rule of the bank for dividend warrants to be presented in person the holders came to the rotunda on the specified dates from all parts of the country. All it meant to them before the days of railways only they could tell; and, as they are no longer voluble, we cannot imagine. Many years later, when travelling had become almost a national pastime, it was a brave sight to see them clustering thickly in the ante-room for the preliminaries, and then taking their stand, often six deep, at the rotunda counter. What material in the rotunda for students of eccentric and strongly-marked character!

The beauty of the bank would never be guessed from the monumental blackness of its exterior walls. These certainly are dominant enough. They speak as loudly as stone, can of the substance of earthly things. But no grace is mingled with their suggestion of might. The interior, on the other hand, is marked by a noble harmony.

Dropped from the clouds into the Garden Court, and allowed to wander as he pleased in its close neighbourhood, a stranger might fancy himself in the domain of some later Medici who mingled banking with a rest for architecture and decoration. The old court-room, with its white pillars and inlaid plaques, like big pieces of rare Wedgwood, has a lightness and proportion that are rare in the City of London, where interiors are apt to be heavily handsome. From the windows directors of the bank, these hundred years or more, have looked on to the spreading lime tree which remains the centre of the peaceful loveliness of Garden Court.

The committee room and the ante-rooms share the beauty of the court-room, and also its air of taste. None of them suffers from that overcrowding of pictures, busts, or other records of the past which often proves so fatal to grace. Yet the bank has its treasures of art. One of them is a mantelpiece of white marble with a frieze-like decoration in exquisite sculpture. What period of Italian art it represents the connoisseurs must decide if they can. It was brought to the bank about the middle of last century from the house of the Marquess of Anglesey, which then became, and has remained, the bank's western branch in London.

A hopeful statement has been made that the amenities of these old rooms may be preserved in the reconstructed building, and that some of the vaulted rooms and corridors may be retained. Nothing but urgency would justify the least tampering with an interior so admirably fitted, in its simple dignity, to typify the Bank of England. The consolation is that work is sure to be done with due reverence both to beauty and tradition.

The bank is no longer open to visitors. Formerly, it had a place among the shows of London. Parties of not more than six used to be conducted over portions of the building. But the parties increased. Sometimes there were as many as twenty-five of them in one day. The question of guidance grew serious, and a decision was made that the Bank of England must attend to business only.

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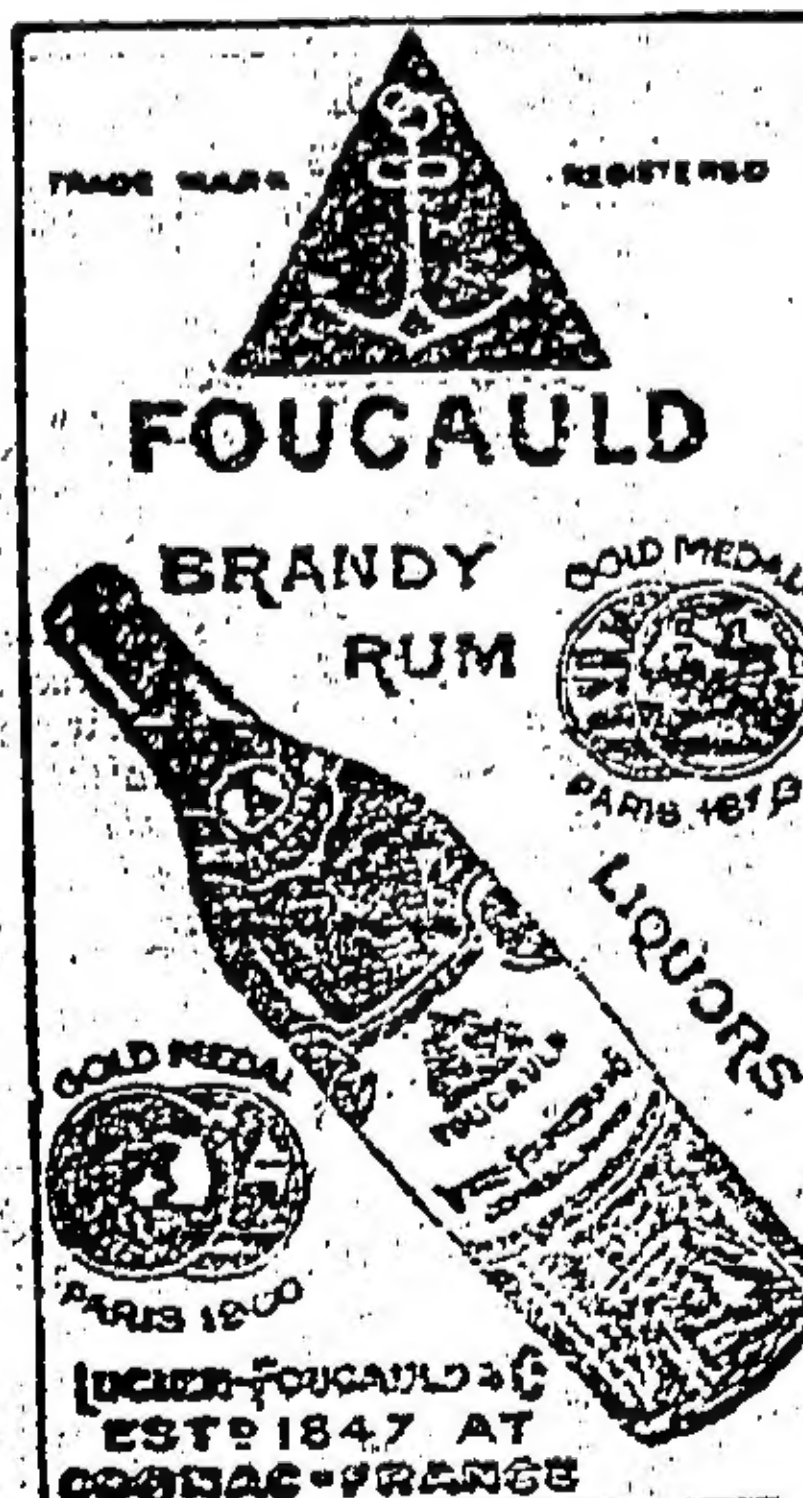
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Humidity	63	18	63
Wind Direction	E	N	N
Force	3	0	1
Weather	0	0	0
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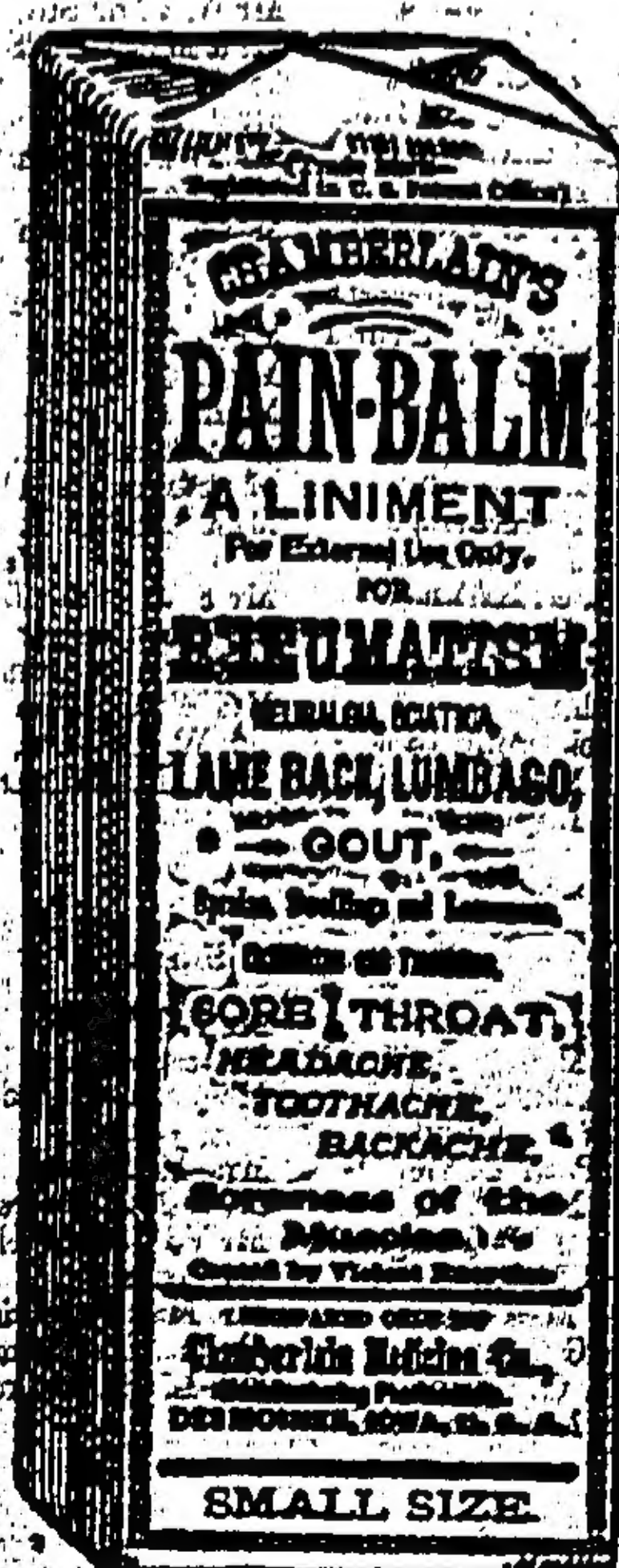
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WORLD'S GREATEST MEN.

DEAN INGE'S CHOICE OF FIVE FAMOUS CHARACTERS.

Dean Inge, in the *Evening Standard* observes:—"Mr. H. G. Wells has lately brought out a list of the six greatest men, in his own opinion, who have ever lived. Invitations have been sent to other well-known men to compile rival lists of names, but I have not seen their answers. It is not, perhaps, a very fruitful inquiry. We do not know very much about the majority of historical characters, and if we did, it might seem a little presumptuous in us to sit in judgment upon men of genius. It has been said that the world knows nothing of its greatest men. The poet Gray pictured mute, inglorious Miltons, and Cromwells guileless of their country's blood, living and dying unrecognized in many a quiet village."

The Dean goes on to say:—"Poverty and lack of opportunity may be too strong for even the greatest talents. If Darwin had been the son of a blacksmith, he might have left a local reputation as a collector of beetles, and nothing more. Besides this, how can we weigh one kind of greatness against another? If we have to choose between a prophet, a poet, a discoverer, and an administrator, what measure can we find by which to compare them?"

"Are we to give the preference to natural genius, or to actual performance and influence upon posterity? Alexander the Great died at 32, Raphael and Mozart at 36. Are they to be given 'weight for age,' or not? For all these reasons, the competition, though interesting, need not be taken very seriously."

MR. WELLS'S GREAT MEN.

"Mr. Wells, as is well-known, dislikes prancing generals and scheming politicians. He thinks that the world's prophets are the world's greatest men. Mr. Wells heads his list with the name of the Founder of Christianity. This choice could be objected to only by the sceptical school of historians, who think that the historical character has been so overlaid with honorific legend that the actual facts have been lost, and by Christians, who might feel that there was some want of reverence in bringing that name into competition with others, even if it placed at the head of the list. For this latter reason, I should myself prefer not to include Mr. Wells's first choice in my batch."

Buddha quite reasonably appears in Mr. Wells's first six. Whether the Indian Asoka deserves such tremendous promotion I cannot say. He must have been a remarkable man, but he is a rather shadowy figure."

"Aristotle has good claims to represent the philosophers, and Roger Bacon, a priest, was the pioneer of science and of the modern way of looking at the world in a very dark age."

Mr. Wells finds no room for any of the giants of literature or of music in his list. "I will now make an attempt at a list of my own."

Among the founders of religion, since I have given my reason for omitting the greatest name of all, I should give the first place to St. Paul. It was he who, under Providence, made Christianity the religion of the civilized world."

"That he was a great thinker no unbiased student of his writings can doubt; and as a travelling missionary he displayed unsurpassed heroism, determination, and organizing power. He has never been the most popular among great Churchmen; but he was a greater man than Augustine, who perhaps comes next him in power and magnitude of achievement."

"Among the great philosophers I think I should choose Plato. Aristotle was the first and greatest of the mighty professors, a man of encyclopedic knowledge, the prototype of Kant, Hegel, and the rest. But Plato's influence on human thought has been quite as great. He was not only a thinker, but a poet and prophet, and one of the supreme masters of prose literature. Whatever happens to other schools of philosophy, there will always be Platonists."

"I have no hesitation in placing Leonardo da Vinci among my first six. No more richly endowed nature has ever existed. Time has dealt hardly with his paintings. Like Turner, he seems to have been unfortunate in his choice of pigments; they have faded sadly. But good judges are unanimous in putting him in the front rank. And Leonardo was an almost universal genius. That he was a sculptor and a poet as well as a scientific inventor are amazing."

"A LITERARY NAME. One great literary name must surely be included. Perhaps it does not matter much whether we choose Aeschylus or Sophocles, Dante or Goethe or Shakespeare as our representative. But our great English dramatist, is not likely to be dethroned from the pedestal on which German as well as English admiration has set him. The verdict of the world is that no one has a better right to represent creative and imaginative literature, and there we will venture to place him."

"One hero of natural science ought certainly to be included. Science is the queen of our modern world; the reactions against it are shallow and ephemeral. No objection could be taken to the selection of Charles Darwin, when we consider the revolution which his researches have made in every department of human thought. His theories have been modified here and there, the veil of his disciples outstripped his own. But no branch of science has been unaffected by his labors. Nevertheless, as we have already one Englishman on our list, I will choose as my representative of science the Frenchman, Pasteur, whose biography is one of the most inspiring looks that I know. It is the record of a consistent, single-hearted life devoted in great measure to the relief of human suffering and crowned by several discoveries of capital importance. (Continued in next column.)"

U.S. "PROHIBITION NAVY."

BRITISH SKIPPER'S STAND.

[FROM "THE DAILY TELEGRAPH'S" CORRESPONDENT.]

New York, September 21st.
Prohibition agents engaged in the work of running down vessels suspected of being engaged in smuggling spirits into the United States and bringing them into port were defied last Tuesday night, when Captain Shears, commanding the British yacht *Oncard*, resisted the attempts of American Customs officials to board him by threatening to shoot the first man who put foot upon the deck. The Treasury officials at Washington, to whom a full report of the incident has been sent, declare that the matter will probably be dropped so far as the international aspects are concerned, but admit that the case is important, because it involves the question of America's right of search of vessels on the high seas, and will probably have a bearing on the diplomatic representations which it is understood, are now being conducted between Washington and London. The American officials believe that the British Foreign Office has little sympathy with the nationals who attempt to violate the Prohibition Law of this country, but the bigger question at stake is whether American Customs officers, in searching ships beyond the three-mile limit of territorial waters recognised by international law, are not attempting to enforce the laws of the United States on the high seas. The officers of the "prohibition navy" claim that the right of search beyond the three-mile zone is justified by an old Customs law of a century's standing, defining twelve miles as the limit of home waters.

When overhauled on Tuesday night, Captain Shears claimed that he was outside the twelve-mile limit, although the Customs inspectors aboard the Government boat believed that the distance from the New Jersey shore was not more than ten miles. As the *Hahn*, a former submarine chaser, approached the yacht, Captain Shears threw his searchlight on the British flag and stood guard at the rail. A boat from the *Hahn* came alongside the *Oncard*, and a seaman attempted to draw himself over the rail, but Captain Shears caught his hands, shoved them away, and threatened to take his life, according to the seaman's story, if he again attempted to climb aboard. The Customs official informed Captain Shears that he would be forced to fire if he resisted, to which Captain Shears is alleged to have retorted: "If you fire on us you will be firing on the British flag." There were no further words, and the boat returned to the *Hahn*, which, after a brief period, turned about and disappeared into the darkness.

If the human race had the sense to glorify its benefactors instead of its destroyers, it is men like Pasteur who would receive the highest honours that it can bestow.

"My last place, in spite of Mr. Wells, will be filled by Julius Caesar. Hannibal and Marlborough and Napoleon may have been greater generals, but this dissipated Roman aristocrat, as he appeared in his early days, saw exactly what needed to be done, and did it. He founded the Roman Empire, and at the time of his murder was engaged in reducing chaos to order, doing the work of ten men, and showing consummate administrative genius. His portrait bust is perhaps the finest example of a human head that has ever been moulded."

MOTOR BOATS FOR SALE.

The Twin Screw Tunnel Stern
Motor Launch "ENRICA"
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Length overall—56' 0".
Breadth moulded—11' 6".
Depth moulded—3' 6".
Draught moulded—18" to 19".
D. W. capacity on above draft—3 tons.
Speed—8½ knots.
Engines—Twin set "Kelvin" Motors, each 30 h.p.
Installed with Electric Light.

Price \$10,000 or near offer.

The Motorboat "KEIKING"
(Built of Teak).

Length overall—22' 10".
Breadth—7' 5/10".
Draught (approximate)—18".
Engine—"Kelvin" Petrol Motor.
Price \$1,800 or near offer.

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SAILINGS, SUBJECT TO ALTERATION

HAIPHONG via HOIHOW	"LEESANG"	Friday	3rd Nov.	10 a.m.
MANILA	"YUENSANG"	Friday	3rd Nov.	3 p.m.
TRIENTSIN via CHEFOO	"CHONGSHING"	Saturday	4th Nov.	Noon.
TSINGTAU via SWATOW	"TUNGSHANG"	Sunday	5th Nov.	9 a.m.
BANGKOK via SWATOW	"CHILDA"	Tuesday	7th Nov.	10 a.m.
TSINGTAU via SWATOW	"HOPSANG"	Tuesday	7th Nov.	5 p.m.
STRAITS & CALCUTTA	"HOSANG"	Thursday	9th Nov.	3 p.m.
HAIPHONG via HOIHOW	"MINGSANG"	Friday	10th Nov.	10 a.m.
BANGKOK via SWATOW	"MAUSANG"	Friday	10th Nov.	Noon.
STRAITS & CALCUTTA	"KWAISANG"	Tuesday	14th Nov.	Noon.
BANGKOK via HOIHOW	"FOORSANG"	Tuesday	14th Nov.	3 p.m.
TSINGTAU via SWATOW	"CHUNSANG"	Wednesday	15th Nov.	11 a.m.
HAIPHONG via HOIHOW	"HANGSANG"	Thursday	16th Nov.	D.L.
TSINGTAU via SWATOW	"KOTSANG"	Thursday	16th Nov.	Noon.
HAIPHONG via HOIHOW	"YATSHING"	Sunday	19th Nov.	D.L.

—This Line affords regular sailings to Calcutta, Penang and Singapore, returning from Calcutta, steamers proceed via Straits and Hongkong to Japan, occasionally calling at Shanghai. All steamers have excellent passenger accommodation, are fitted with Electric Light and Fans and carry a fully-qualified Surgeon.

SHANGHAI LINE—Sailings approximately every three days between Canton and Shanghai, sometimes calling at Swatow. Through tickets can be obtained and through Bill of Lading are issued to Northern and Yangtze Ports via Shanghai.

MANILA LINE—A weekly service is maintained with Manila by vessels with good passenger accommodation, sailings from both ports every Friday, calling at Hoihow when indicated.

HAIPHONG LINE—Sailings approximately weekly for passengers and cargo calling at Hoihow when indicated.

BORNEO LINE—Fortnightly sailings to and from Sandakan by two 5,000 tons steamers, "HINSANG" and "MAUSANG", both steamers having excellent passenger accommodation. Cargo taken of through Bills of Lading for Kuching, Jesselton, Luban, Tawau and Lahad Datt.

TRIENTSIN LINE—A regular service is run from March to November between Hongkong and Trientsin, calling at Weihaiwei and Chefoo. A weekly service is provided between Hongkong and Bangkok, via Swatow, by five steamers fitted with up-to-date passenger accommodation.

CALCUTTA LINE

s.s. "HOSANG" will be despatched on or about
Thursday 9th Nov. at 3 p.m. for SINGAPORE, PENANG
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TELEPHONE: CENTRAL No. 215

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Joint Service of Steamers.

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OUTWARDS.

Vessel	Leaves Hongkong	Discharges
"GLENKIFFER"	5th Nov.	London, Antwerp, Rotterdam & Hamburg.
"GLENKERRY"	9th Nov.	Glasgow, London, Antwerp, Rotterdam & Hamburg.
"GLENBEE"	15th Nov.	London, Antwerp, Rotterdam & Hamburg.

HOMEWARDS.

Vessel	Leaves Hongkong	Discharges
"GLENKIFFER"	5th Nov.	London, Antwerp, Rotterdam & Hamburg.
"GLENKERRY"	9th Nov.	Glasgow, London, Antwerp, Rotterdam & Hamburg.
"GLENBEE"	15th Nov.	London, Antwerp, Rotterdam & Hamburg.

Movements are subject to change without notice.

For freight or further particulars please apply to—

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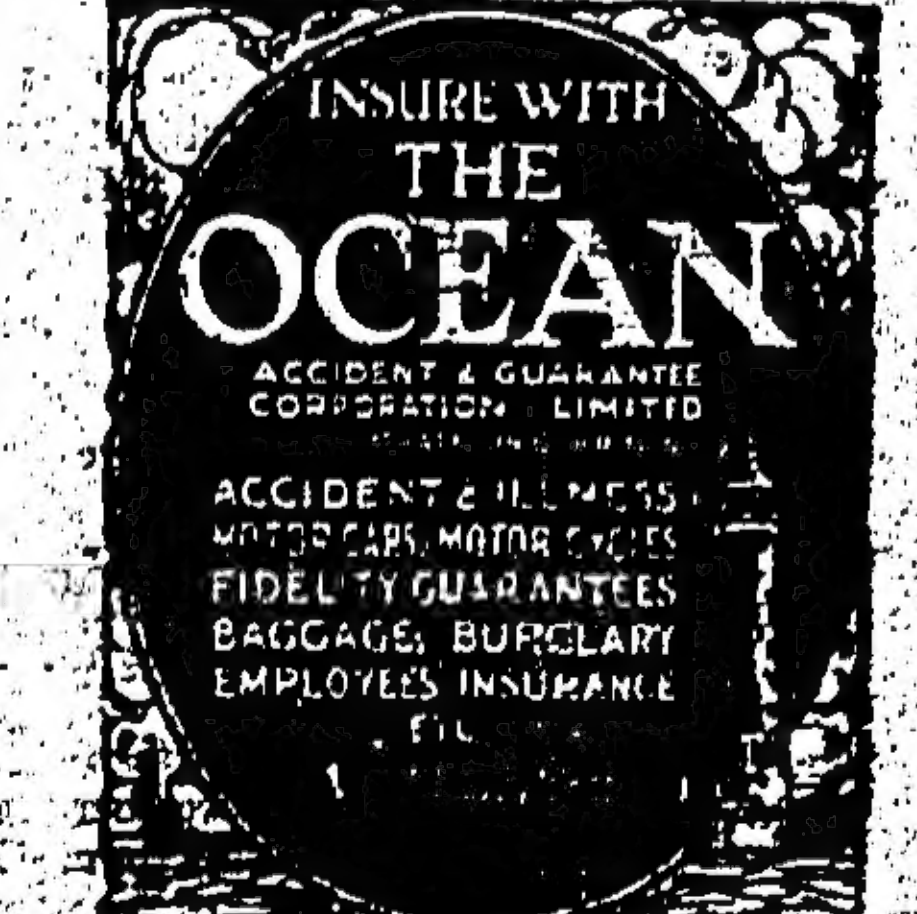
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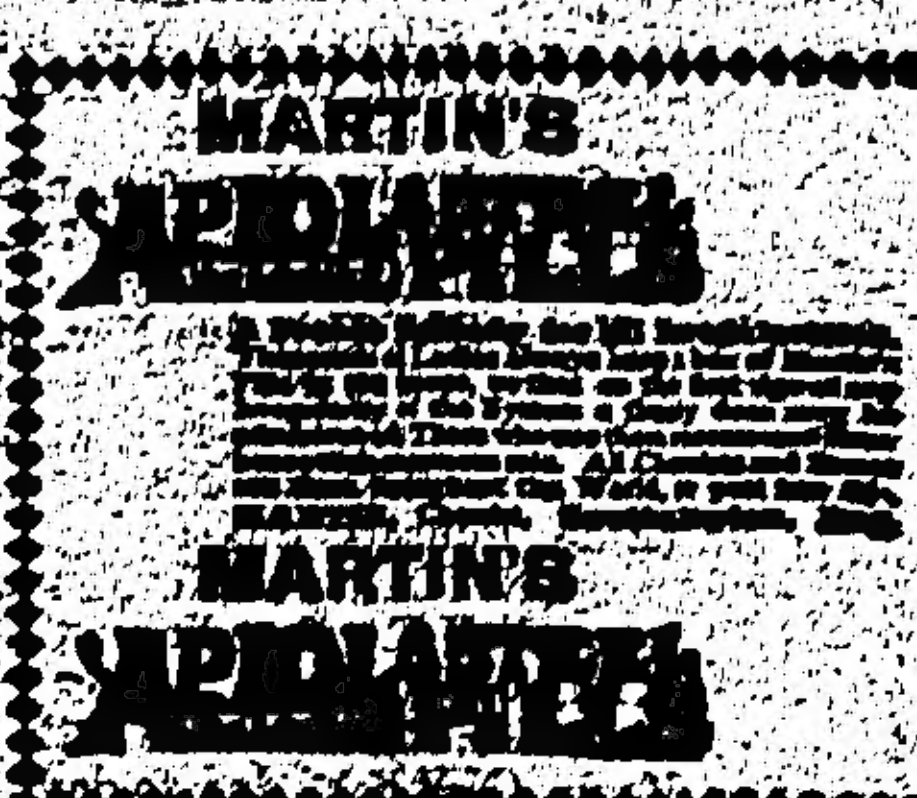
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HOMEWARDS.

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 "CITY OF YORK" ... beg. Feb. ... Marseilles & London.
 "CITY OF SIMLA" ... mid. March ... Marseilles & London.
 "CITY OF POONA" ... mid. April ... Marseilles & London.

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 "TRUCER" ... via Suez Canal ... 15th November.
 "CITY OF CANTON" ... via Suez Canal ... 25th November.
 "ALCINOUS" ... via Suez Canal ... 5th December.

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PORTHOS	14th Nov.
ARMANDIE	25th Nov.
PAUL LECAT
ANDRE LEBON

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A CLASS (1st Class) ... 218. 14s. 0d. B CLASS (1st Class) ... 218. 6s. 0d.
 STEAMERS (2nd) ... 210. 12s. 0d. STEAMERS (2nd) ... 210. 10s. 0d.

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 HAIFONG ... Capt. W. S. Turnbull ... Tuesday ... 7th Nov. at 12 Noon.
 HAIFONG ... Capt. W. C. Passmore ... Friday ... 10th Nov. at 1 p.m.

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DIRECT ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS.
(Under Contract with H.M. Government.)

S.S.	Tons	From Hongkong (about)	Destination
"DONGOLA"	8,064	8th Nov. 11 a.m.	Marseilles, London & Antwerp.
"NANKIN"	7,008	22nd Nov.	do.
"BOUDAN"	6,700	22nd Nov.	Spore, Penang, Colombo & Bombay.
"KARMALA"	9,000	6th Dec.	Bombay, Madras, London & Antwerp.
"KASHGAR"	9,000	27th Dec.	Marseilles, London & Antwerp.
"PLASSY"	7,800	10th Jan. 1924	do.
"SARDINIA"	6,880	24th Jan.	do.
"NELLORE"	6,883	7th Feb.	do.
"DELTA"	8,097	21st Feb.	do.
"KALYAN"	9,063	7th Mar.	do.
"KASHMIR"	8,841	21st Mar.	do.
"KHYBER"	9,014	4th Apr.	do.

BRITISH INDIA - APCAR SAILINGS

"EGRA" ... 5,108 ... 3rd Nov. 2 p.m. ... Singapore, Madras & Rangoon.
 "GREGORY APCAR" ... 4,649 ... 14th Nov. ... Singapore, Penang & Calcutta.

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"EASTERN" ... 4,800 ... 29th Nov. ... (Manila, Thursday Island, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney & Melbourne).

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 The New Zealand Shipping Co's Steamers for Southampton and London via Panama Canal.

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"TAKADA" ... 7,000 ... 4th Nov. ... Japan.
 "KARMALA" ... 9,000 ... 5th Nov. 10 a.m. ... S'ial. Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
 "EASTERN" ... 4,800 ... 4th Nov. ... Japan.
 "BOUDAN" ... 6,700 ... 5th Nov. ... Shanghai.

All dates are approximate and subject to alteration without notice.

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 BUREN AIRE—RIO DE JANEIRO, SANTOS, DUREN & CAPE TOWN—SAIGON & SINGAPORE—PASSENGER SERVICE
 "SEATTLE MARU" ... Tuesday ... 5th Dec.
 BOMBAY & COLOMBO—REGULAR FORTNIGHTLY SERVICE—SINGAPORE
 "SUMATRA MARU" ... Monday ... 5th Nov.
 "HONOLULU MARU" ... Monday ... 5th Nov.
 SAIGON, BANGKOK & SINGAPORE—Regular monthly Passenger Service.
 "BUCHO MARU" ... Monday ... 6th Nov.
 CALCUTTA via SINGAPORE & RANGOON.
 "NANKING MARU" ... Sunday ... 12th Nov.
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NEW ORLEANS LINE via SUEZ ...

"CELEBRITY MARU" ...

JAPAN PORTS—Kobe & Yokohama ...

"ATLAS MARU" ... Thursday ... 16th Nov.

KEELING via SWATOW & AMOY—These Steamers have excellent accommodation for 1st and 2nd class saloon passengers.

"ONSHU MARU" ... Sunday ... 5th Nov.

TAKAO via SWATOW & AMOY (Takao direct) ... Friday ... 2nd Nov.

"BATAGIA MARU" ... Saturday ... 4th Nov.

"SOSHU MARU" ...

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 and
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 SWATOW & SINGAPORE ... "SHIYANG" ... On 2nd Nov. 4 p.m.
 SWATOW ... "KANGCHOW" ... On 3rd Nov. Noon.
 SHANGHAI & TIENTSIN ... "SUNNING" ... On 4th Nov. 9 a.m.
 WEIHAIWEI, CHEFOO & TIENTSIN ... "LUCHOW" ... On 5th Nov. D.L.
 SHANGHAI ... "CHINCHUA" ... On 5th Nov. 9 a.m.
 SWATOW & SINGAPORE ... "CHENAN" ... On 5th Nov. 10 a.m.
 SHANGHAI & TIENTSIN ... "LIANGCHOW" ... On 7th Nov. 9 a.m.
 SHANGHAI ... "CHENGTO" ... On 7th Nov. 4 p.m.
 AMOY & SHANGHAI ... "SOOCHOW" ... On 9th Nov. 9 a.m.
 HOIHOW, PARROT & HAIPHONG ... "SAIFONG" ... On 10th Nov. D.L.
 SHANGHAI & TIENTSIN ... "SZECHEWEN" ... On 11th Nov. D.L.

SHANGHAI LINE—PASSENGER, MAILS and CARGO
 Excellent Saloon accommodation, electric fans in Saloon and staterooms. Regular schedule service between Canton, Hongkong, Shanghai, (twice weekly) and Tientsin (weekly), taking cargo on through bills of lading to all Yantai and Northern China Ports. Passengers are landed in Shanghai, avoiding the inconveniences of transshipment at Weiping.

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"CHANGSHA"	About 18th Dec.	20th Dec.

This Steamer is fitted with Refrigerating Machinery, ensuring a plentiful supply of Ice, Fresh Provisions, etc., and has superior accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in the State-Rooms. A fully qualified Doctor is carried. United Fruit, Cargo booked through to all Australian, New Zealand & Tasmanian Ports.

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Telephone Central No. 25. (JOHN SWIRE & SONS, LTD.), Agents.

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED.

REGULAR SAILINGS TO NEW YORK & BOSTON

For NEW YORK & BOSTON via SUEZ

"KENDAL CASTLE" ... sailing on or about 22nd November.
 "WEAY CASTLE" ... sailing on or about 20th December.

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INWARD MAIL.

OUTWARD "MAILS.

*Correspondence bearing vessel's name only.

Hongkong, July 12th. 1931.